

The Federated Church of East Arlington



April 2025

From the desk of the Pastor

Dear Friends,

Greetings to you in the name of Jesus! I hope the lengthening of the days is offering you a sense of renewal.

In March, the church hosted the annual mac and cheese dinner and dessert auction for Arlington Area Childcare which raised funds for their programs. Thank you to all who helped to set up and clean up for this event. It is one of the many important things we do to support the community.

We hosted a confirmation class on March 16. We have a small but committed group of youths from several local churches who are learning about the Bible and exploring the foundations of their faith. Adult Bible studies are ongoing on Thursdays at 3pm. Our study of the Gospel of Mark will conclude in April.

On March 23, my family and I gave a presentation on our trip to Eritrea and included photos of some of the families we are helping to support. Thank you to everyone who has contributed to help those in need. Other highlights in March included a combined youth group visit to Pastime Pinball in Manchester and on March 26, pastor Bill Borrer and I offered music and conversation on the Gospel and Talmud according to Bob Dylan. Thank you to everyone who attended these events.

I continued visiting parishioners and community members in their homes at rehab centers in Bennington during the month of March. This is an ongoing part of the church's mission and an important way to connect the church community with those in need.

April will be an eventful month as we prepare for Holy Week. Our annual egg hunt is on Saturday, April 19th at 9am. Please spread the word to families with young children. Also, please mark your calendars for our special services and events. We are hosting a movie showing of "Things Hidden: The Life and Legacy of René Girard" on Wednesday, April 9 at 6:30pm followed by discussion. I was involved in this film's production.

Even though the mountains and valleys still appear barren and the trees are leafless, things are moving resolutely towards the time of flowering and rebirth. It is important to remember during this Lenten season that God is always working behind the scenes, quietly, resolutely to bring new life into the midst of what appears to be a deadened wilderness. The sap is flowing in the trees. Small buds are appearing on shrubs. Crocuses and snow bells are emerging through the mat of fallen leaves. As we approach the celebration of Christ's resurrection, we are made aware that the difficult journey through darkness and trials will end in joy.

May God bless and keep you always,

Andris



HOLY WEEK

Email: federatedchurch05250@gmail.com
Church office: 802-375-2548

YouTube: Federated Church of East Arlington, Vt
Facebook: Federated Church of East Arlington

Report of the Financial Secretary, Sandra Grover

2024 Congregational Giving Budgeted:	\$ 70,000.00
Congregational Giving 1/1/25-3/31/25	\$ 16,810.70
Building use 1/1/25-3/31/25	\$ 1,185.00
Parsonage Rental	\$ 5,400.00



Church attendance

	Adults	Children	Youth	Zoom
3/2	40	9	2	6
3/9	37	8	0	6
3/16	41	7	0	7
3/23	40	11	2	6
3/30	37	8	0	5



At our March meeting, the Church Council discussed the upcoming Easter Egg Hunt, summer lunch program, and movie nights, as well as the ongoing boundary line adjustment and parking lot paving.

We have exciting news to share! The Federated Church has received a bequest from the estate of Janet Wilson in the amount of \$20,695! No restrictions were placed on our use of these funds.

Many thanks to all who give of their time and talents to benefit our church. Special thanks to Diane McConnell for designing the beautiful Lenten altar.

Because the third Sunday of April falls on Easter Sunday, our next meeting will be April 27.
Peace,

Marilyn Warner
Council Chair



Church Council

Moderator	Marilyn Warner
Treasurer	Adam Annunziata
Clerk	
Ex Officio-	Andris Berry
Building and Grounds	Edward Coy
Christian Education	Tammy Lang
Finance	Olavi Wirkki
Worship & Ministry	Karen Coy
Missions & Outreach	Sandy Grover

Team Members

1. Alyson Grzyb	2. Dennis Warner
1. Casey Annunziata	2. Scott Lang
1. Alyson Grzyb	2. Scott Lang
1. Phyllis Warren	2. Dianne McConnell
1. Gail Rice	2. Ann Smith

April Birthdays

- 5 – Casey Annunziata
810 Dunlap Farm Road
Arlington, VT 05250
- 7 – Adam Annunziata
810 Dunlap Farm Road
Arlington, VT 05250
- 13 – Phyllis Warren
61 Borough Road
Sunderland, VT 05250



April Anniversaries

- 10 – Adam and Casey Annunziata
810 Dunlap Farm Road
Arlington, VT 05250



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 6:** Second Congregational Church of Bennington
- April 13:** United Church of Benson
- April 20:** Brandon Congregational Church
- April 27:** Federated Church of Castleton

Christian Education

Easter Egg Hunt **Saturday, April 19th at 9am sharp**

After church on Palm Sunday, **April 13**, we are filling the Easter Eggs

Please bring in individually wrapped candy for eggs by Sunday April 13th

Sign up sheet in Bailey Hall for Cookies, Juice, and Easter napkins for Easter Egg Hunt Refreshments

Filling Easter Eggs Sunday **April 13th** after church.

Easter Egg Hunt Saturday **April 19th** at 9am



This month, we will focus on **cooperation**—
Working together to do more than you can do alone.

Join us in learning our **memory verse**:

“In this world you will have trouble. But, be encouraged! I have won the battle over the world.”
John 16:33b, NIV

We offer weekly programming during the 10am
Sunday service for kids ages 1-12. We encourage
you to invite your friends, family, and neighbors to
join us!

Lectionary Readings for April

- April 6:** Isaiah 43:16-21; Psalm 126
Philippians 3:4-14; John 12:1-8
- April 13:** Isaiah 50:4-9; Psalm 31:9-16
Philippians 2:5-11; Luke 23:1-49
- April 20:** Isaiah 65:17-25; Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24
1 Corinthians 15:19-26; John 20:1-18
- April 27:** Acts 5:27-32; Psalm 150
Revelations 1:4-8; John 20:19-31

April Helping Hands Needed

We need helpers to assist with our services.

Greeter—1 per service

Usher—1 per service

Readers—1 per month, or share with someone

Altar flowers—each Sunday, except Lent

Refreshment time—set up, clean up, goodies



Worship With US

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86243626013?pwd=z0OIhUN6Q4Qa0zSadxwVLD4k6PooNB.1>

Meeting ID: 862 4362 6013

Passcode: 932568

One tap mobile

+13017158592,,85851005502#,,,,*481587# US
(Washington DC)

+13052241968,,85851005502#,,,,*481587# US

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.

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

From the Office

Any interest? Volunteer?

Once a month breakfast open to the public?

Summer sale with chicken barbecue?

Other suggestions:

Needed

Clerk for the church council

Church secretary

Publicity person or team

Historical team to organize history records



Contribution Statements

Please let me know how you would like your 2024 contribution statements delivered to you:

postal mail email picked up at the office

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

Sandy Grover, Financial Secretary

sandragrover@gmail.com or 802-375-4982

Arlington Area Food Shelf 2025

The Arlington Food Shelf

P.O. Box 723

Arlington, VT 05250

Please donate non-perishable food.

Place in the box in the church entry or in Bailey Hall.

55 pounds



The New Arlington Farmers Market

Fridays, 4-7 from June 6-September 5, 2025

Peggy Hanson, market manager, encourages non-profits the opportunity to prepare and sell a meal to people attending the market. Preparation should be offsite, refrigeration and electricity available to use if needed. We choose what meal and other foods. Peggy encourages using compostable plates and utensils.

Suggestions for other weeks: water, cold drinks, popsicles, ice cream cones or sundaes, etc.

The market will be along route 7A in Arlington village with a goal of having meals available and more vegetables, fruit, maple syrup, honey, bread vendors as well as craft vendors and musicians.

Please let Sandy at the office know if you are interested in helping with the farmers market or sign up on the list in Bailey Hall. 802-375-2548; sandragrover@gmail.com; 802-375-4982.

Looking forward to a fun Arlington Farmers Market 2025!



Easter Flowers

We all have the opportunity to make our sanctuary beautiful to celebrate the Risen Christ!

I will bring a **potted flowering plant** in memory of or in honor of:

Given by:

I will give \$ 15.00 per plant to be purchased for Easter Sunday (checks to The Federated Church or cash) in memory of or in honor of:

Given by:

I will make a donation to the Pastor's Fund: In memory of or in honor of: _____

Given by:

(Checks to be made out to "The Pastor's Fund")

The plants can be brought to Bailey Hall on Friday, April 18th or Saturday, April 19th, 9 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Candy for Easter Egg Hunt!

We are collecting wrapped candy for the Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday, March 30 at 9:00 a.m. **sharp** for ages 1-10.

Candy should be individually wrapped and small enough to fit in plastic eggs.



Bentley Family Scholarships Available

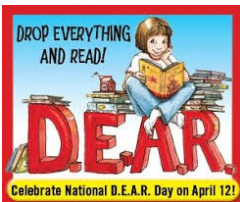
Are you graduating from high school and heading off to college? Are you in college and continuing your studies next year? Do you reside in the Arlington/Sandgate/Sunderland area or did you attend Arlington Memorial High School?

If you answered yes to any of these questions, applications are available in the AMHS guidance office or call the church at 802-375-2548; email federatedchurch05250@gmail.com.

Applications are due back to Federated Church of East Arlington, 102 Ice Pond Rd, Arlington, VT 05250 by April 15th. We look forward to hearing from you!



Adventures In Reading



March was NATIONAL READING MONTH.

Adventures in Reading had two events this month. On March 27, four of us attended a Vermont Reads Event at the Bennington Free Library. Educator Kenneth M. Cadow, the author of *Gather* about a teen growing up in Vermont, the Vermont Reads 2024 selection and a National Book Award Finalist, read from his book, answered questions, and talked about the novel's themes of rural life, resilience, class differences, addiction and recovery, housing and food insecurity, a deep relationship to the land, and the power of community.

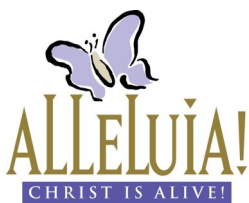
Six members met on March 31 for potluck and a great discussion about *Gather* and how it related to our own experiences with young people like Ian, the main character of the book. We recommend that you read the book.

Although it may seem that May is still a ways away, this is a reminder to have the list of books you have read and the books you recommend turned in to Phyllis by May 15. The preferred method for books you want on the 2025-2026 list is by email stating the author (last name, first name), book title and a brief description of the book you recommend.

April 12 is DROP EVERYTHING AND READ DAY (D.E.A.R.). Try to spend at least a little time reading that day.

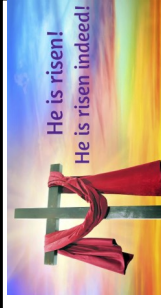
Holy Week

Sunday, April 13	10:00am	Palm/Passion Sunday
Thursday, April 17	7:00pm	Maundy Thursday Service
Friday, April 18	9:00am-3:00pm	Sanctuary open for prayer and reflection
Saturday, April 19	9:00am sharp	Easter Egg Hunt at Bailey Hall
Sunday, April 20	6:00am	Easter Sunrise Service at MACK headquarters followed by continental breakfast in Bailey Hall
Sunday, April 20	10:00am	Easter Service of Worship <i>He Is Risen</i>





April 2025



Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

6 FCEA worship services are live on Zoom each Sunday (unless notified otherwise)	7 10a-Bone Builders	8 12n-Senior Meals	9 10a-Bone Builders 6:30p-"Things Hidden" movie and discussion	10 12n-Senior Meals 3p-Bible Study	11	12
13 <u>Palm/Passion Sunday</u> 10a-Worship, Communion, Sunday School, nursery 11a-Fellowship time Combined youth group	14 10a-Bone Builders	15 12n-Senior Meals	16 10a-Bone Builders 3p-Serenity Singers	17 12n-Senior Meals 3p-Bible Study 7p-Maunday Thursday Tenebrae service	18 9a-3p-Good Friday, sanctuary is open for prayer and meditation	19 9a SHARP-Egg hunt
20 <u>Easter Sunday</u> 6:00a-Sunrise Service-MACK Followed by a continental breakfast in Bailey Hall 10a-Easter Worship, Zoom CHRIST IS RISEN!	21 10a-Bone Builders	22 12n-Senior Meals	23 10a-Bone Builders	24 12n-Senior Meals 3p-Bible Study	25	26
27 10a-Worship, Sunday School, nursery 11a-Fellowship time 11:20a-Church Council	28 10a-Bone Builders	29 12n-Senior Meals	30 10a-Bone Builders	12n-Senior Meals 3p-Bible Study		

