



# The Federated Church of East Arlington



January 2026

From the desk of the Pastor

Dear Friends,

Greetings to you in the name of Jesus! The season of Advent has passed and the time of Christmas is here. It is a time of joy and celebration for the coming of the light into the world, the good news that *“The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.”* (John 1:5) With the birth of the Christ child, we give thanks for the gift of new life in the Spirit.

December was a fun month at the Federated Church. We had our annual greening of the Church on the 6th. Thanks to the guys who made the trek to the mountains to find the trees for the sanctuary and Bailey Hall and the greens for the big wreath. Thanks to all who helped with the decorations. It was a fun morning and the church looks beautiful with all the greens and nativity scenes.

The Advent Workshop took place on the 7th. It was a joy to see all the children and youth making ornaments and gifts. Thanks to Tammy and Scott for organizing this special event each year and to all those who helped! It is a special time for everyone involved.

Thanks to all the youth and parents who made the Christmas pageant happen this year. It was a special gift for the entire church family.

We held our annual Blue Christmas service with St. James Episcopal church on the 21st. Thanks to Rev. Jeremy and friends from St. James for joining with us in this service.

Our Christmas Eve service was light-filled. Thanks to all the readers, greeters, ushers and those who helped make it a special evening of joy and thanksgiving for the birth of our Lord and savior Jesus Christ.

Looking ahead to January, we will be having a music sing-along and jam on the 14th at 7pm. On the 11th, after worship, there will be congregational meeting to review the budget. Our annual meeting will be on the 18th after church along with a lunch of bread and soup. On the 19th at 7pm, we will be hosting the Northshire Interfaith Council’s annual Martin Luther King Jr. Day service. The speaker will be Paul Sangree from the Vermont Conference of the UCC. All are welcome and encouraged to attend.

As the days are cold and icy, please continue to look out for neighbors and members of the community who may be in need of help, but also those in need of light. We have been given gifts of the spirit and those gifts multiply as we share them with others. As we celebrate the good news of Christmas, let us also continue to keep watch, maintaining the Advent spirit of preparedness for what is to come.

May Christ bless and keep you now and always.

Andris

*Thus says the Lord, who makes a way in the sea, a path in the mighty waters, “Remember not the former things, nor consider the things of old. Behold, I am doing a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert. (Isaiah 43: 16, 18-19)*



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**

|                                       |              |
|---------------------------------------|--------------|
| 2025 Congregational Giving Budgeted:  | \$ 70,000.00 |
| Congregational Giving 1/1/25-12/31/25 | \$ 58,487.49 |
| Building use 1/1/25-12/31/25          | \$ 9,351.00  |
| Parsonage Rental                      | \$ 21,500.00 |
| Fundraising 1/1/25-12/31/25           | \$ 5,091.01  |



**Church attendance**

|       | Adults | Children             | Youth | Zoom |
|-------|--------|----------------------|-------|------|
| 12/7  | 38     | 11                   | 1     | 5    |
| 12/14 | 42     | 12                   | 4     | 8    |
| 12/21 | 52     | Pageant              |       | 6    |
| 12/21 | 35     | Blue Christmas, 6 pm |       | 0    |
| 12/24 | 115+   |                      |       | 4    |
| 12/28 | 29     | 1                    | 1     | 6    |



**WARNING**

**January 11, 2026**

Congregational meeting to review the 2025 Budget following worship.

Annual Reports will be ready to be picked up by January 11th

Let Sandy know if you would like an Annual Report delivered or mailed to you.



**WARNING**

**2025 ANNUAL MEETING**

**JANUARY 18, 2026 following worship**

to discuss the business of the church

Acceptance of reports

Vote on proposed 2026 budget

Vote on nominations

Other business



**Church Council**

**Team Members**

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

- |                     |                    |
|---------------------|--------------------|
| 1. Alyson Grzyb     | 2. Dennis Warner   |
| 1. Casey Annunziata | 2. Christy Wood    |
| 1. Scott Lang       | 2. Alyson Grzyb    |
| 1. Phyllis Warren   | 2. Diane McConnell |
| 1. Gail Rice        | 2. Ann Smith       |

**January Birthdays**

- 2 – Harriet Welther  
2815 Sunderland Hill Road  
Arlington, VT 05250
- 4 – Aaron Wood  
112 Gingerbread Hill Road  
Arlington, VT 05250
- 5 – Christy Wood  
112 Gingerbread Hill Road  
Arlington, VT 05250
- 22 – Dottie Kosciński  
55 Dutch Lane  
Arlington, VT 05250
- 25 – Karen Coy  
449 Sunrise Lane  
Arlington, VT 05250
- 26 – Alyson Grzyb  
95 Lost Road  
Sunderland, VT 05250



**Children & Youth**

- 13, 2017 Levi Annunziata
- 3, 2014 Markus Berry
- 24, 2019 Vera Annunziata
- 2015 Everest Tait



**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.

- Jan. 4:** Federated Church of Castleton
- Jan. 11:** Congregational Union Church So. Wallingford
- Jan. 18:** Union Church of Proctor
- Jan. 25:** United Church of Dorset and East Rupert

**Lectionary Readings for January**

- Jan. 4** Jeremiah 31:7-14; Psalm 147:12-20  
Ephesians 1:3-14; John 1 (1-9), 10-18
- Jan. 11** Isaiah 42:1-9; Psalm 29  
Acts 10:34-43; Matthew 3:13-17
- Jan. 18:** Isaiah 39:1-7; Psalm 40:1-11  
I Corinthians 1:1-9; John 1:29-42
- Jan. 25:** Isaiah 9:1-4; Psalm 27:1, 4-9  
I Corinthians 1:10-18; Matthew 4:12-23

**CHILDREN'S  
Sunday School**

**Children's Ministry**

**January – Blessings**

**Memory Verse:** "The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you." Numbers 6:24-25

**January 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
- Refreshment time – set up, clean up, goodies
- Altar – 1 or 2 per week – once a month to set up for Communion, polish cross, candleholders if needed, check candles.



**A Christian observance  
celebrating the Magi's  
visit to Jesus.**

### Annual Reports

Please have your annual reports to me at the office by Sunday, **January 7th**. The Annual Report has to be printed and handed out on January 11th.

Thank you,  
Sandy Grover



### The Pastor Parish Relations Panel 2025

The Pastor Parish Relations Panel (PPRP) is a Federated Church of East Arlington committee. The PPRP is a vital church committee that aims for a covenantal relationship that prioritizes our church's mission to support and maintain a healthy relationship between our Pastor and the members of our congregation.

As of September, 2025, the members of the PPRP are Pastor Andris Berry, Donna Stone, Ann Smith, Karen Underhill, Bernice Gaudette and Gail Rice. We meet four times a year in the months of March, June, September, and December. Please contact a member of the PPRP should you have church-wide thoughts or suggestions. We appreciate hearing from you.

Peace and blessings,

Pastor Parish Relations Panel

Pastor Andris Berry  
Donna Stone  
Ann Smith  
Karen Underhill  
Bernice Gaudette  
Gail Rice

### 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.

### Advent Candlelighters and Readers

12/7 Bernice Gaudette and Phyllis Warren  
12/14 Harriet and Michael Welther  
12/21 Diane and Jeff McConnell  
12/24 The Lang Family

### Contribution Statements

Please let me know how you would like your 2025 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 2026

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.



# January 2026



| Sun   | Mon   | Tue                    | Wed                                     | Thu                                      | Fri | Sat                        |
|---|---|------------------------|---|--|-----|----------------------------|
|   |   |                        |   | 1<br>HAPPY<br>NEW YEAR                   | 2   | 3                          |
| 4<br>10a-Worship, Communion,<br>Sunday School<br>11a-Fellowship time and<br>potluck lunch                 | 5<br>10a-Bone Builders  | 6<br>12n-Senior Meals  | 7<br>10a-Bone Builders                  | 8<br>12n-Senior Meals<br>2p-Bible Study  | 9   | 10<br>9a-Degreening church |
| 11<br>10a-Worship, Sunday School<br>11a-Fellowship time<br><u>BUDGET REVIEW MEETING</u>                   | 12<br>10a-Bone Builders                                       | 13<br>12n-Senior Meals | 14<br>10a-Bone Builders<br>7p-Music Jam | 15<br>12n-Senior Meals<br>2p-Bible Study | 16  | 17                         |
| 18<br>10a-Worship, Sunday School<br>11a-Fellowship time, soup<br>and bread lunch<br><u>ANNUAL MEETING</u> | 19<br>10a-Bone Builders<br>7p-MLK Service<br>Federated (FCEA) | 20<br>12n-Senior Meals | 21<br>10a-Bone Builders                 | 22<br>12n-Senior Meals<br>2p-Bible Study | 23  | 24                         |
| 25<br>10a-Worship, Sunday School  | 26<br>10a-Bone Builders                                       | 27<br>12n-Senior Meals | 28<br>10a-Bone Builders                 | 29<br>12n-Senior Meals<br>2p-Bible Study | 30  | 31                         |