

THE CRIER

A PUBLICATION OF COLCHESTER FEDERATED CHURCH

A Note From Pastor Lauren

Happy Easter! Yes, it is *still* appropriate to wish each other “Happy Easter” because Easter is not just a day, but a whole season in the church year. This is maybe even more important this year since Easter Sunday arrived so early on March 31st.

When it comes to upcoming worship services, we will see that April 7th is the Second Sunday of Easter, April 14th is the Third Sunday of Easter, April 21st is the Fourth Sunday of Easter, and so on until we arrive at Pentecost Sunday (May 19th this year). There are seven Sundays of Easter in this liturgical year. Hooray! Alleluia! Happy Easter!

Professor of Preaching and Worship Lawrence Hull Stookey reminds us, “The recovery of Easter as ‘the Great Fifty Days’ of the year can move the church along toward a fuller understanding of what the resurrection of the Lord implies. Easter is not one closing day at the end of a lengthy period of Lent. Easter is one extended rejoicing in the resurrection

that more than exceeds in length the Lenten disciplines. The first day of the season, Easter Day, is the opening of a protracted celebration, even as the Resurrection is itself the opening to a vast new reality.” (Lawrence Hull Stookey, *Calendar: Christ’s Time for the Church*, pg. 56)

The Lenten days of prayer, fasting, and discipline can be a lot to take by the time we get to Holy Week. It is a necessary and important time, though it can feel heavy. Easter Sunday ushers in a whole new feeling and a whole new season. This is now a time for celebration. Eastertide is an extended rejoicing in the miracle of resurrection and new life, ushering in a new reality. Let us rejoice and be glad for weeks to come, for Christ is indeed Risen. Hooray! Alleluia! Happy Easter!

See you in church,
Pastor Lauren

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Ministers:

All of the Members of the Church are called to serve in daily life.

Staff:

Rev. Lauren L. Ostrout, *Pastor*
Kimberly Lewis, *Music Director*
Nicole Hosford, *Office Manager & Christian Education Director*
Tom St. Louis, *Treasurer*
Dave Hock, *Custodian*

Colchester Federated Church
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06415

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WORSHIP INFORMATION

Scripture Readings & Readers

April 7	John 20:19-31	Ashlyn Barrows
April 14	Luke 24:36b-48	Susan Sanford
April 21	John 10:11-18	TBD
April 28	John 15:1-8	Lynn Stefanowicz

GREETERS

We're happy to announce the return of "Greeters" at the front doors of the church on Sunday mornings. This was a fun tradition headed by Dolores Sawchuk for many years. We're hoping to have a greeter(s) a couple times a month. It's a great way for members of the congregation to informally get to know each other. We would love to encourage newer members especially as it's a great quick way to put a name with a face. If you're interested, please see us after church. We hope to see you at the front doors!

Thanks! John and JoAnne Dooley

INTERGENERATIONAL COMMUNION SUNDAY

On Communion Sundays the youth of CFC help lead the worship service. Pictured are snapshots of our helpers from our service on March 3.



Photo Credits: Steve Bradstreet

IN OUR PRAYERS

For those who are ill or recovering:

Priscilla Allen (*Joyce Johnson's friend*)

Lydia Blacker

Ethan Collins (*John Dooley's grandson*)

Colleen Damron (*Joyce Johnson's friend*)

Sadie Dombrowski

Elizabeth Emory

Terry Howard, Sr

Eleanor Keller

Kathy Landry

Jacquelin Mildrum (*Joyce Johnson's mother*)

Tammy Savalle (*Michele Howard's sister*)

For those grieving the loss of a loved one:

The Malicki Family, for the loss of Brian Malicki
The Sawchuk Family, for the loss of Teri Sawchuk

Prayers for all those who are providing care for family members.

Prayers for all those who are grieving.

Prayers for all who are in recovery and struggling with sobriety.

Prayers for all those separated from their families.

Prayers for our country, its leaders, and for peace here and in the world.

Names will remain on the prayer list for 1- 3 months unless otherwise communicated to the church office.

CELEBRATIONS & THANKS



- 04/03 Ellie Tiezzi
- 04/07 Meghan Barrows
- 04/08 Evelyn Plecan
- 04/10 Kelly Keenan
- 04/13 Chester Anderson
- JoAnne Dooley
- Matthew Olsen
- Necia Stopa
- 04/14 Gerry Caron
- 04/17 Wendy Moores
- 04/21 Dick Paige
- 04/22 Jason Clarke
- Cora Rago
- 04/23 Logan Sevigny
- 04/24 Todd Simonds
- 04/26 Rosie Bosse
- Barbara McKelvey



- 04/27 Liza & Jim Ringuette

We are very thankful to so many people in our church community...

- ... Thank you to Deborah Howard for making the new Easter banner for the sanctuary.
- ... Thank you to the members of Church Life for organizing hosts for coffee hour. Special Thanks to Deborah Howard for making the coffee each Sunday.
- ... Thank you to Avis Hull for delivering the items collected Sunday mornings to the food bank each week.
- ... Thank you to Richard Hosford for helping Stewardship with the sanctuary roof issue.
- ... Thank you to all those who read scripture during our special services for Holy Week.
- ... Thank you to Todd Simonds for playing guitar at the Easter Sunrise service.
- ... Thank you to Ethan Moores for playing trumpet at the 9 AM Easter service.
- ... Thank you to Christine Miskell for baking the resurrection rolls for the youth on Palm Sunday.
- ... Thank you to the members of Church Life for hosting the Palm Sunday Pancake Breakfast. Special thanks to Deborah Howard for donating all the supplies.
- ... Thank you to Christine Miskell, Susan Sanford, and Megan Stillwell for stuffing Easter Eggs for the Egg Hunt.
- ... Thank you to Tom St. Louis for leading worship while Pastor Lauren was out sick.

We thank those who check on and open/close windows and doors... for those who bring in paper goods to offset our expenses, and for those who donate their time and efforts to maintain and repair our buildings and grounds.

Giving Update

	February	Year to Date
Total Pledged	\$13,935	\$27,869
Total Received	\$15,366	\$28,785
Difference	\$1,432	\$916
Percent Received	110%	103%

THANK YOU

Dear My Church Family,

On the morning of my birthday, things were going well when my apartment buzzer rang, and I answered it. Living across from the front door, I walked out and opened the door. There stood a man with an armful of beautiful flowers. "I believe these are for you," he said. I responded, "Oh, those are so gorgeous!" The delivery person said, "I believe I've just made your day!" And indeed, he had.

Thank you so much for the thoughtful gift. I spent the day alone doing whatever I wanted, and the flowers set the tone. When my last book, *Hunt the Beloved*, is out this spring, you will find a chapter with a similar bouquet of flowers.

With affection, JessieMay Kessler



Feb. 25, 2024

To My CFC Family,
It is with sincere appreciation that I recognize your kindness during my time of challenging health issues. The beautiful, colorful bouquet you sent is uplifting and a lovely way to remember old and friends. Your thoughtfulness over the years is a source of strength. Thank you.

With love,
Janette

LENTEN MISSION

HELPING HARTFORD'S HOMELESS

Our congregation's Lenten Mission project was collecting supplies to make hygiene kits for the homeless population of Hartford as well as gift cards for Officer Barrett (Hartford's Homeless Outreach Officer) to hand out on his beat.

Last Sunday, our youth assembled the hygiene kits, which I then delivered to Officer Barrett on Monday evening. With overwhelming support from the congregation, the youth packed a total of 106 hygiene kits, along with 102 all-day bus passes, 30 Dunkin' Donuts, and 22 McDonald's gift cards!

A heartfelt thank you goes out to Katie, Todd, Jocelyn, Ashley, and our older youth for guiding the younger ones through the assembly process. And especially to the congregation for the outpouring of support for the mission!

Well done, everyone! Truly, God is Good!
~Nicole



SUNDAY SCHOOL

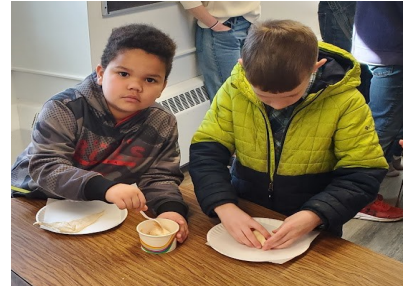
VBS PLANNING TEAM

We are looking for help in Music, Games, Snacks, Bible Stories, and folks to walk groups around.

If you are interested in helping with the planning process, taking on a lead role in one of the areas, or interested in volunteering for the week of VBS (Aug 5-9), please join us following worship on **April 7** or contact Nicole.

RESURRECTION ROLLS

Sunday School youth made resurrection rolls on March 24 as part of their Easter lesson! Thank you to Christine Miskell for baking these delicious treats!



Colchester Federated Church

Children's Sunday

May 19th

Wear your tie dye t-shirts!



EASTER FLOWER DEDICATIONS

**Thank you to everyone who purchased Easter Flowers for the sanctuary.
They were given by:**

In memory of my wife, Alberta
Chester Anderson

In loving memory of our parents
Greg & Debby Barden

**In memory of Evelyn Barr & John
Barr, Jr**
John Barr

In memory of Jack & Ginny Bartlett
With love, Judean, Michelle, and Krissi

In memory of Dana & Bea Bradstreet
With Love, BethAnn, Krista, and Steve

In memory of Pam Lane
The Bradstreet Family

In remembrance of Marjorie Carrier
Forrest & Suzanne Cramer

In memory of Clara Sophia Bakaj
In memory of Thomas W. Hinchliffe
Kaytlyn Howard

In memory of Carolyn Marvin
In memory of Dwight H. Marvin
The Marvin Family

**In memory of Jan & Jeff McKelvey,
& extended McKelvey Family**
**In memory of Al & Nellie Anderson,
Al Jr., & extended Anderson Family**
Barbara McKelvey

In memory of my family
Gary Riddell

In memory of my loved ones
Dolores Sawchuk

**In memory of Ken and Alma
Chatfield**
Lynn Stefanowicz

For Family & Friends
Mary Tomasi

In memory of our loved ones
Frank & Jeannette Tomlinson



SNAPSHOTS AROUND CFC



Photo Credits: Steve Bradstreet, Richard Hosford, & Rev. Jack Shackles

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Capital Campaign Pot O' Luck Brunch

Sunday, April 14 at 10:00 AM in the Stage Room Following Worship

Our Mission Begins Anew!

All are invited to join in the kick-off event of our Rainbows and Pot O' Gold Campaign to repair and restore our iconic, spiritual, and community-centered church building. Renewal has already begun. Information on current activity, stewardship, and achieving Pot O' Gold objectives will be shared.

Please bring a treat for the Fellowship Buffet. Coffee, Chocolate Gold and Rainbows Provided.

THIRTY ONE FUNDRAISER FOR GENERAL FUND

It's time for another fundraiser now that new patterns are out, and spring is here! They are the perfect gift for Mother's Day, coaches, dance teachers, troop leaders, teachers, and graduates, too! Jen Totten will hold a cash and carry sale with an assortment of bags you can take home the same day on April 28 in the stage room. You can also order online or through the catalog with an order form. There are a few ways to order:

- Stop by the table right after church on April 28 to shop or grab a catalog.
- Get a catalog and order form from Jen or go to

<https://www.mythirtyone.com/1874131> and place an order by April 29

that site will show *Jen Totten* in right corner. Under that, click **MY PARTIES**

- Then see **Colchester Federated Church** and click **SHOP NOW**.

For every \$50 spent, you can select an item 50% off!

Any questions, see Jen Totten

Orders are taken until April 29, and 20% of your order goes to the general operating budget.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

SPRING IN BLOOM VENDOR FAIR

Our annual Spring in Bloom Market is almost here- May 4th from 10 am- 2 pm! If you have a baking talent, some items for our tag sale or a few hours to donate as a volunteer please reach out to Liza.

We also sell single serving drinks and single serving snacks; if you are able to donate any of those items, let me know! And of course, another way to support CFC is to swing by and shop! Mother's Day is right around the corner; you'll be sure to find something special for the ladies in your life at our market!

Thank you, as always, for your help in making this fundraiser a success for CFC!

~ Jen, Renee and Liza



Spring in Bloom Vendor Fair

Saturday, May 4th 10 AM - 2 PM

Crafters - Vendors - Upscale Tag Sale
Farmer's Market - Raffle - Bake Sale

Colchester Federated Church
60 Main St, Colchester CT

If you would like to be a vendor, please contact Renee at
rouillette01@snet.net

CHURCH CALENDAR

APRIL 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 12 PM AA (Lib) 7 PM Boy Scouts (JR/SR/G) 7:30 PM AA (Lib) Pastor Lauren Off	2 10:30 Zoom Bible Study 12 PM AA (Lib) 6 PM AA Women's Meditation (Lib)	3 10 AM My Brother's Keeper (JR) 10:15 AM Staff Meeting (O) 12 PM AA (Lib) 6 PM Girl Scouts #63223 (JR) 7:30 PM AA (Lib)	4 10 AM AA (Lib) 6 PM Parks & Rec: Pickleball (G) 6:30 PM Choir Rehearsal (S)	5 12 PM AA (Lib) 6 PM Inner Connections (Lib) 6:30 PM Private Event (G) 7:30 PM Private Event (G)	6 7:30APM Private Event (G) 9:30 AM AA (SR) 9:30 AM Al-Anon (JR/Lib) 11 AM GS Drive Thru Cookie Booth (O)
7 9 AM Worship Service (S) 10 AM VBS Meeting (JR) 7 PM Boy Scouts Committee Meeting (SR) 7 PM CE Meeting (Zoon)	8 12 PM AA (Lib) 7 PM Boy Scouts (JR/SR/G) 7:30 PM AA (Lib)	9 10:30 Zoom Bible Study 12 PM AA (Lib) 6 PM AA Women's Meditation (Lib) 7 PM Stewardship (Lng)	10 10 AM My Brother's Keeper (JR) 12 PM AA (Lib) 7:30 PM AA (Lib)	11 10 AM AA (Lib) 6 PM Parks & Rec: Pickleball (G) 6:30 PM Choir Rehearsal (S)	12 12 PM AA (Lib) 6:30 PM Private Event (G) 7:30 PM Private Event (G)	13 7:30APM Private Event (G) 9:30 AM AA (SR) 9:30 AM Al-Anon (JR/Lib)
14 Capital Campaign Kick-Off 9 AM Worship Service (S) 10 AM Potluck (SR) 12 PM Discipleship (Lng)	15 12 PM AA (Lib) 7 PM Boy Scouts (JR/SR/G) 7:30 PM AA (Lib)	16 10:30 Zoom Bible Study 12 PM AA (Lib) 6 PM AA Women's Meditation (Lib) 7 PM Deacons (Lng)	17 10 AM My Brother's Keeper (JR) 12/7:30 PM AA (Lib) 6 PM Girl Scouts #63223 (JR)	18 10 AM AA (Lib) 6 PM Parks & Rec: Pickleball (G) 6:30 PM Choir Rehearsal (S)	19 12 PM AA (Lib) 6:30 PM Private Event (G) 7:30 PM Private Event (G)	20 7:30APM Private Event (G) 9:30 AM AA (SR) 9:30 AM Al-Anon (JR/Lib)
21 9 AM Worship Service (S) Dave Hock Off	22 12 PM AA (Lib) 7 PM Boy Scouts (JR/SR/G) 7:30 PM AA (Lib)	23 10:30 Zoom Bible Study 12 PM AA (Lib) 6 PM AA Women's Meditation (Lib)	24 10 AM My Brother's Keeper (JR) 12 PM AA (Lib) 7:30 PM AA (Lib)	25 10 AM AA (Lib) 6:30 PM Choir Rehearsal (S)	26 12 PM AA (Lib) 6:30 PM Private Event (G) 7:30 PM Private Event (G)	27 7:30APM Private Event (G) 9:30 AM AA (SR) 9:30 AM Al-Anon (JR/Lib) Discipleship Closing Retreat
28 9 AM Worship Service (S) 10 AM Prayer Circle (Lng) Discipleship Closing Retreat	29 12 PM AA (Lib) 7 PM Boy Scouts (JR/SR/G) 7:30 PM AA (Lib)	30 10:30 Zoom Bible Study 12 PM AA (Lib) 6 PM AA Women's Meditation (Lib)				

Colchester Federated Church

60 Main St

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www.colchesterfederatedchurch.org



**I will tell of ALL your
WONDERFUL deeds.
Psalm 9:1, NIV**