

THE CRIER

A PUBLICATION OF COLCHESTER FEDERATED CHURCH

A Note From Pastor Lauren

“On Christmas morning we find the manger full of life; on Easter morning we find the tomb empty of death. We know the whole truth now; death is not the end, and life as we know it is only the beginning of Life. There is no suffering from which we cannot rise if we live a life centered in Jesus.”

~Joan Chittister, *The Liturgical Year: The Spiraling Adventure of the Spiritual Life*, pg. 164

In May, we continue with the Sundays of Easter in worship. Because on Easter morning we found the tomb empty of death. We understood on a deeper level that life as we know it is only the beginning of Life. Hallelujah!

As I shared in my sermon about “Doubting Thomas” on April 16, Easter Sunday ushers in a season called Eastertide. For some reason, we remember and pay much more attention to Lent than to Eastertide in the Christian Church. (There’s a whole sermon and/or theological reflection in that statement, but I’m just going to let that observation be for now)!

The point is that Eastertide lasts for 50 days and ends on Pentecost (May 28 this liturgical year). Eastertide is a time

of celebration—the party that began on Easter keeps going. Eastertide is this season in the church where we keep celebrating the Resurrection of Jesus the Christ. Not as a one-off event, but as a lived reality for the followers of Jesus ever since. The Gospel texts we read in the season of Eastertide are some of the stories about Jesus appearing after the Resurrection—like appearing to the disciples in the locked room and then to the disciples with Doubting Thomas. Not to mention Jesus appearing to the two disciples on the road to Emmaus.

This season provides the opportunity for us to keep on celebrating the Easter miracle. To celebrate that death never gets the last word in God’s story. To celebrate that God keeps God’s promises. To ponder some of life’s great mysteries that we cannot always understand with our heads but need to feel in our hearts. To celebrate hope everlasting.

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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Phone (860)537-5189

Email/Website:
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WORSHIP INFORMATION

SCRIPTURE READINGS & READERS

May 7	John 14:1-14	Amelia Fluck
May 14	John 14:15-21	Sue Sanford
May 21	John 17:1-11	Kurt Frantzen
May 28	Acts 2:1-21	John Dooley

Interested in being a scripture reader?
Please reach out to John Dooley

AT HOME COMMUNION

Do you know a Church Family Member who would like to receive communion but are house-bound and unable to make it to Sunday Services? Please bring this to the attention of a Deacon so we might bring communion to them. Or call the church office who will direct your request to the Diaconate.

INTERGENERATIONAL COMMUNION SUNDAY

On Communion Sundays we worship together and the youth help with leading the worship service. Thank you to Ashlyn, Ben, Essie, Gavin, and Kolby for helping to lead our worship service on March 5th.

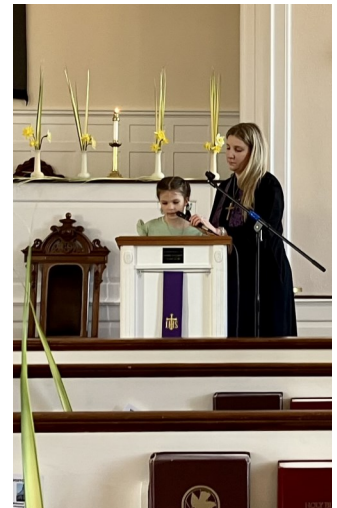


Photo Credit: Steve Bradstreet, Barbara Bosse, and Deborah Howard

IN OUR PRAYERS

For those who are ill or recovering:

Cindy (*Cheryl Letendre's Sister*)

Rick & Kathi Diederich (*Danielle Pensa's Parents*)

Sadie Dombrowski

Elizabeth Emory

Terry Howard, Jr.

Eleanor Keller

Kathy Landry

Jan McKelvey

Tammy Savalle (*Michele Howard's Sister*)

Teri Sawchuk

Duncan Schofield (*Megan Stillwell's Father*)

For those who are grieving the loss of a loved one:

John & Dolores Sawchuk for the loss of their cousin, Paul

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



- 05/04 Jeannette Tomlinson
- 05/05 Forrest Cramer
- 05/06 Garth Frantzen
- 05/09 Lynn Goodwin
- Robin Zabiegalski
- 05/11 Deborah Howard
- 05/15 Maria Olsen
- 05/18 Larry Landry
- Owen McCarvill
- Marissa Perez
- 05/19 Tom Evans
- 05/20 Alice Walls
- 05/21 Connie Paige
- 05/23 Avis Hull
- 05/30 Debra Carrier-Perry
- Steven Moores



- 05/11 Lynda & Sean Stevens
- 05/27 Pastor Lauren & Neill Ostrout
- 05/28 Cathy & Brian Marvin

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

... Thank you to Rich Hosford, Pastor Lauren & Neill Ostrout, and Christine Miskell & Tom St. Louis for all their help with decorating the sanctuary for the Easter surprise!

... Thank you to Kim Lewis, members of the choir, Ethan Moores, and Ben, Laurie & Todd Simonds for proving the congregation with such beautiful music for the Easter services.

... Thank you to all those that donated plastic eggs & fillings for the Easter Egg Hunt. There were over 1,000 eggs!

... Thank you to all those who have hosted coffee hour following our worship services each week.

... Thank you to Deborah Howard for making bread with the Communion Class.

... Thank you to Laurie Gerundo for leading the Meeting of The Minds gathering.

... Thank you to Donna Wink for overseeing the installation of shades in the library.

... Thank you to Rich Hosford for spreading gravel and repairs to the parsonage sink.

... Thank you to Dick Paige & Avis Hull for cleaning up the church flowerbeds.

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.

JOY OF BAPTISM



Congratulations, Anora!



Photo Credit: Rich Hosford

Giving Update

	March	Year to Date
Total Pledged	\$12,422	\$37,266
Total Received	\$11,947	\$41,158
Difference	\$(475)	\$3,892
Percent Received	96%	110%

MISSION & WITNESS

CHURCH WORLD SERVICE: MOTHER'S DAY CARDS

Between Easter and Mother's Day, Mission & Witness will be selling Mother's Day cards to raise money for the Church World Service (CWS) Blankets program, which provides blankets, hygiene kits, school kits, and emergency cleanup buckets to qualifying 501(c)(3) agencies as emergency situations or disasters occur within local communities. From the CWS website: The CWS Blankets program was created "to give a kind, loving and tangible response to someone facing a difficult time, reminding them that they are not alone. 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."

Cards will be available for \$10 each, and every card sold will purchase a blanket to be given to an individual who has experienced an emergency situation. Though these cards are not specifically intended for Mother's Day, they would make a great gift for your mother, your grandmother, your sister, your wife, your daughter, your aunt, your cousin, your best friend, your crafting buddy, your walking partner, your book club hostess, your favorite teacher, your nosiest neighbor (the one with the barky dog), your worst enemy, or any other lovely lady who has everything.

For more information about this very worthwhile initiative, visit <https://cwsblankets.org>, or speak with Lynn Stefanowicz.

Mission and Witness:

Laurie, Lynn, Rick, Todd, and Wendy



THANK YOU!

Wow! Sometimes, there are just no words, so I'll keep this one brief. 1,745 diapers! 1,592 wipes! Thank you, thank you, thank you for your continued commitment to honor our Congregation's covenant with the DCF Adopt-a-Social-Worker program, this time in the form of a bunch of clean and dry, squishy baby butts! It's impressive and heart-warming, and I am, as always, amazed and so grateful. Again, thank you.

Mission & Witness: Laurie, Lynn, Rick, Todd, and Wendy

SUNDAY SCHOOL

COMMUNION CLASS



Congratulations Emma, Caroline, Amelia, and Logan!

On April 6th, the Communion Class helped lead the Maundy Thursday Worship Service and received Communion, some for the first time!



SUNDAY SCHOOL

SUNDAY SCHOOL DATES TO REMEMBER

May 21—Begin practicing for Children’s Sunday!

May 28—Practice for Children’s Sunday. It’s also Pentecost so everyone is encouraged to wear red! And while you’re at it, stay for the Memorial Day parade!

June 4—Practice for Children’s Sunday (**YES**, there **IS** Sunday School on this date so youth may have more time to prepare for Children’s Sunday!)

June 11—Children’s Sunday & Church Picnic! Youth will lead us in worship as we celebrate before summer break.

Aug 7-11—Vacation Bible School, 9 AM—12 PM

**There is no Sunday School over the summer.
Sunday School will resume on
Rally Day, Sept 11th!**

VBS: SUPPLIES NEEDED!

VBS preparation is in full swing and we need your help! **We are looking for empty wrapping paper rolls, various sized cardboard boxes and brown packing paper that sometimes comes in your deliveries.** Please consider saving them for VBS. They can be dropped off to the church office during the week or to the sanctuary on Sunday morning.

Be on the lookout...

An Amazon Wishlist with supplies needed for the program will be shared with the congregation in the coming weeks.

*VBS is a **free program** open to youth in the wider community. It remains free through the generous donations of our congregation.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

BE A HERO!
VOLUNTEER FOR VBS!
AUG 7-11, 2023 | 9 AM - 12 PM
HELP LEAD THE YOUTH ON AN EPIC ADVENTURE!
We are looking for adults & older youth to help lead groups of kids around from the various areas throughout the church.
If you can help please reach out to Nicole

EASTER FLOWER DEDICATIONS

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

- ◇ **Chester Anderson:** In memory of my wife Alberta
- ◇ **Debby Barden:** In loving memory of my parents, Francis & June Benoit
- ◇ **Greg Barden:** In loving memory of my grandparents, Stanton & Ellen Gallup
-Jennie Howard
- ◇ **John Barr:** In memory of Evelyn Barr & John Barr, Jr.
- ◇ **Bradstreet Family:** In memory of Pam Lane, Love The Bradstreets
In loving memory of Mom & Dad, Dana & Bea Bradstreet.
Love, BethAnn, Krista, and Steve
In loving memory of our parents, John & Virginia Bartlett.
Love, Jude, Michelle, and Krissi
- ◇ **Izzy Chisholm:** In Honor of Dolores Sawchuk
- ◇ **Forrest and Suzanne Cramer:** In memory of Katherine C. Logee
In memory of Ethel B. Carrier
In Memory of Marjorie L. Carrier
- ◇ **Amy Domeika**
- ◇ **John & JoAnne Dooley:** In memory of Richard Rogowski
In memory of Harold & Lois Dooly
- ◇ **Tracy Gale:** In memory of my grandparents
In memory of my friend, Alice Miles
- ◇ **Deborah Howard:** In memory of Dwight H. Marvin
- ◇ **Marvin Family:** In memory of Carolyn Marvin
- ◇ **Jan & Barbara McKelvey:** In memory of Jeffrey McKelvey
In memory of Albin & Nellie Anderson & Albin Jr.
In memory of extended McKelvey Family
- ◇ **Dick & Connie Paige**
- ◇ **Ted & Sue Sanford:** In loving memory of Jeanne S. Davis
In loving memory of our Grandparents
In loving memory of James Koshivos
- ◇ **Dolores Sawchuk:** In memory of Walter H. & Walter J. “Corky”
Sawchuk
- ◇ **Jennifer Sevigny:** In memory of Michael Glieco
- ◇ **Lynn Stefanowicz:** In memory of Ken and Alma Chatfield
- ◇ **The St. Louis/Miskell Family**
- ◇ **Frank & Jeannette Tomlinson:** In memory of Loved Ones

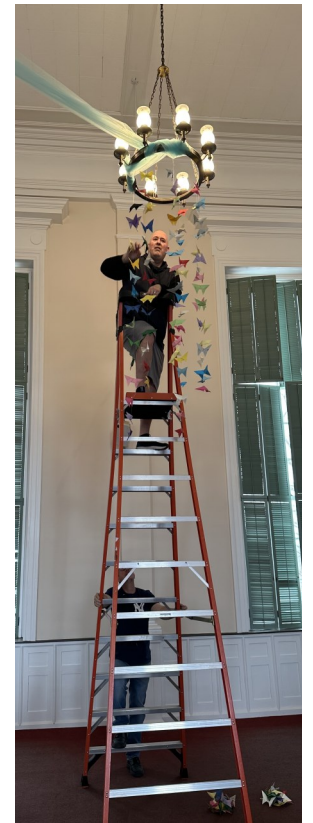


EASTER SUNDAY



Photo Credits:
Steve Bradstreet, Deborah Howard,
Rich Hosford, Christine Miskell, and
Pastor Lauren

BEHIND THE SCENES BUTTERFLY INSTALLATION



ANNOUNCEMENTS

SPRING IN BLOOM VENDOR FAIR

Our Spring in Bloom Market is just weeks away and we are so excited! Every year we receive so much support which makes this fair a success for our church. We hope you can help again! Here's what we are looking for:

** Donations of baked goods, individually packaged/single serving snacks and drinks

** Volunteers to help set up (Friday May 5th), sell items on the day of the fair (May 6th, 10-2pm) and clean up afterward

** High quality tag sale items for our Upscale Tag Sale and gently used books for our Book Sale

** **NEW THIS YEAR:** We are expanding our Upscale Tag Sale to include Girl's and Women's Boutique Items! We are looking for "like new" purses, jewelry, hats, scarves, party dresses....

If you can help in any way at all, please reach out to Liza

THANK YOU so very much for your help!
Jen, Renee and Liza



Spring in Bloom Vendor Fair

Saturday, May 6th 10 AM - 2 PM

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

Colchester Federated Church
60 Main St, Colchester CT

ANNOUNCEMENTS

GRADUATION RECOGNITION

We would like to recognize our graduates! Please let us know if your child will be graduating from high school/college/trade school and what their future plans are so they may be recognized in our Children's Sunday bulletin and upcoming crier.

Please contact Nicole in the office by **May 25** so we can add their name to the list.

The office can be reached at cfc06415@gmail.com or 860-537-5189



WEAR RED FOR

Pentecost
SUNDAY, MAY 28TH

REMINDERS FROM THE CHURCH OFFICE

Announcement Deadlines:

Thursday Thoughts - by 9AM Wednesday morning

Sunday Bulletin - by 9 AM Thursday morning

The Crier - 20th of the month (*June & July are combined so the deadline is May 20th*)

*ALL MEETINGS (*including Ministry meetings*), no matter how brief, should be communicated to the church office so the calendar and room availability may be updated.

*If you move, change phone/emails, want to be added/removed to the birthday & anniversary list, or email mail list, please let the office know so that information may be updated.




THANK YOU!

cfc06415@gmail.com
(860)537-5189



CHURCH CALENDAR

May 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 9:30 Staff meeting (O) 12 PM AA (Lib) 7 PM Boy Scouts (G/SR/JR) 7:30 PM AA (Lib)	2 10:30 Zoom Bible Study 12 PM AA (Lib) 4:30 PM Girl Scout #63313 (JR)	3 10 AM My Brother's Keeper (JR) 12 PM AA (Lib) 6 PM Girl Scouts #63223 (JR) 7:30 PM AA (Lib)	4 10 AM AA (Lib) 6:30 Choir Rehearsal (S)	5 12 PM AA (Lib) 3 PM Vendor Fair Set-up	
7 9 AM Worship Service 10 AM Communion Class Reception (SR) 10:30 AM Ce Meeting (JR) 7 PM Boy Scouts Committee Meeting (SR)	8 12 PM AA (Lib) 7 PM Boy Scouts (G/SR/JR) 7:30 PM AA (Lib)	9 10:30 Zoom Bible Study 12 PM AA (Lib)	10 10 AM My Brother's Keeper (JR) 12 PM AA (Lib) 7 PM Stewardship (Lng)	11 10 AM AA (Lib) 6:30 PM Choir Rehearsal (S)	12 12 PM AA (Lib)	13 9:30 AM AA (SR) 9:30 AM Al-Anon (JR/Lib)
14 Mother's Day 9 AM Worship Service (S)  <div style="border: 1px solid purple; padding: 2px; width: fit-content; margin-top: 5px;">Dave Hock Off</div>	15 12 PM AA (Lib) 7 PM Boy Scouts (G/SR/JR) 7:30 PM AA (Lib)	16 10:30 Zoom Bible Study 12 PM AA (Lib) 3 PM Reception Set-Up (SR) 4:30 PM Girl Scout #63313 (JR) 7 PM Deacons (Lng)	17 10 AM My Brother's Keeper (JR) 11 AM Founder's Day Reception (SR) 12 PM AA (Lib) 7:30 PM AA (Lib)	18 10 AM AA (Lib) 6:30 Choir Rehearsal (S)	19 12 PM AA (Lib)	20 9:30 AM AA (SR) 9:30 AM Al-Anon (JR/Lib)
21 9 AM Worship Service	22 Crier Deadline 12 PM AA (Lib) 7 PM Boy Scouts (G/SR/JR) 7:30 PM AA (Lib)	23 10:30 Zoom Bible Study 12 PM AA (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 Choir Rehearsal (S)	26 12 PM AA (Lib)	27 9:30 AM AA (SR) 9:30 AM Al-Anon (JR/Lib)
28 Pentecost 9 AM Worship Service 	29 Memorial Day Office Closed 12 PM AA (Lib) 7 PM Boy Scouts (G/SR/JR) 7:30 PM AA (Lib) 	30 10:30 Zoom Bible Study 12 PM AA (Lib) 4:30 PM Girl Scout #63313 (JR)	31 10 AM My Brother's Keeper (JR) 12 PM AA (Lib) 6 PM Girl Scouts #63223 (JR) 7:30 PM AA (Lib)			

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www.colchesterfederatedchurch.org

There is no greater love than to lay down one's
life for one's friends.

John 15:13 NLT

