

HILLTOP HERALD

April 2017

Rev. Angela V. Wells
Pastor

Michael Lewis
Moderator

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Dear UCC Burlington Family,

Mental health awareness month isn't until May, but it has come to my attention that mental illness is something many people in our community live with. I am intimately familiar with the effects that anxiety, depression and bipolar disorder can have on our lives, and the lives of our loved ones. It's my hope that our church can be a place in which we de-stigmatize mental illness, in which we are able to take off the masks that many of us wear and live in community as our authentic selves. Having a mental health condition is not a moral failing. It's something 1 in 5 people experience throughout their lifetime, and yet it can be one of the most isolating things that we struggle with. Please know that if you, or someone you love, it going through anything, you are not alone. Reach out. Reach out to family, to friends, to a support group, to me, your pastor. And if you're on the receiving end of one of those conversations, please don't judge, don't evaluate, don't try to fix. Listen. Just listen. We need to hear each other, especially when we're grappling with mental illness.

We must remember that nobody is "normal." It's dangerous to think that some people are, because for those who have a mental health condition, they are made to feel that somehow they aren't what they are "supposed" to be. Well, know that everyone has their problems, their burdens, their imperfections and abnormalities. Nobody is perfect or

normal; we are all abnormal in different ways. What makes you different might also be the blessing that you have to offer the world.

If you have identified with this article on a personal level, then please know that you're whole, just as you are. You have so much to contribute, just as you are. And our church needs you, as you are. If you are thinking that you need to reach out, I hope this message is the catalyst you needed to be in touch with someone who can help you. If you read this article and it made you think about someone else in your life that struggles with mental illness, maybe think about reaching out to them. It's amazing what an email or phone call can do, just opening up the door for conversation could allow you to be present for someone in a way you didn't know they needed you. Above all, may each of you know that you are loved. You are loved by this community, by your family, by me, your pastor, and by the source of unconditional love, the one who created us. I hope our congregation can continue to expand our extravagant welcome to all people, especially those who feel like they don't fit in, because they aren't "normal."

With Love and Support,

Rev. Angela V. Wells

Rev. Angela Wells



We are on BCAT! Our services are being recorded so that they can be broadcast on BCAT, our local cable access channel. You can watch the service on Mondays at 4:30pm and Sundays at 6:00pm. Please note, the only people whose faces are on camera are the choir and those who lead the worship service.



Palm Sunday

April 9 @ 10:20am (10 minutes earlier)

Everyone is encouraged to gather next door in the Big Hall at 10:20am . We will all process into the sanctuary while singing and waving our palms! As we enter, please proceed to the back of the sanctuary coming forward to lay your palms near the altar. (After worship you may take your palms upon leaving).



Maundy Thursday Service

April 13 @ 7:00pm

Please join us for a traditional Maundy Thursday Service in the sanctuary. We will hear the story of Jesus' last days on Earth. Candles will be given out at the start of the service. After receiving Communion by intinction, we will form a circle and extinguish our candles one at a time until we are in darkness, symbolizing Christ's light going out for three days. This is a solemn service for older teens and adults.



Good Friday

April 14 from 2-5pm

Please come sit in the sanctuary between 2-5pm for quiet meditation. There will be quiet music and scripture for you to read if you like.



Easter Sunrise Service

April 16 @ 6:30am

Come and join us in celebrating Christ's resurrection. It is sure to be a wonderful and inspiring service planned by our youth. We will gather across Bedford Street, near the outcropping of the rock for the service. Dress warmly! Donuts, hot chocolate and coffee, provided by Deb Glancy and Donna Ferro, will be served immediately after the service!



Coffee Hour at 9:30am and Easter Egg Hunt at 9:45am

Join us for coffee and fellowship in the Ed Building Hall prior to our 10:15am worship service. There will also be an Easter Egg Hunt for children. All provided by our Christian Education Committee.



Easter Festival Service

Music and Cross Decorating begins @ 10:15am

Worship Service begins @10:30am

This year, we are trying something different for our Easter Festival Service. Join us from 10:15-10:30 as we decorate our beautiful floral cross and listen to music from Joe Stoddard and a brass quintet. At 10:30 our service will begin, and we will celebrate Communion. All are welcome to join as we celebrate love's ultimate triumph over evil!

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION



The Shrove Tuesday Pancake supper in March was attended by many and was great fun!

There was a Mardi Gras mask making table enjoyed by children. The pancakes, all expertly made by Bill Hitchcock, were enjoyed by all. A buffet table was provided for all the pancake toppings, juice, and sausages. It will certainly be held again next year!

In the month of April CE is planning several meaningful events that many in the congregation may participate.

Laraine Wilson and Rev. Angela are planning the Easter (April 16) sunrise service. It will be held at 6:30am across from the church at Simonds Park, and it will include Communion by intinction. Coffee and donuts will be provided at the church after the service.

At 9:45 on Easter morning, we will have our annual Easter story and Egg hunt for all children 11 and under. CE will host an early coffee hour from

9:30 - 10:15, for those who wish to watch the egg hunt or come early to the Easter service.

Many of the children of the Sunday school class have been practicing at noon on recent Sundays to sing at the Easter Sunday service. They are excited to perform their song at the Easter service!



To commemorate Earth Day, on Saturday April 29 the church has organized a group to participate in the Charles River Cleanup project. Volunteers will join other groups in Waltham, MA to work in teams to help clean up the Charles River. We plan to meet at 9 at our church and then carpool to Waltham. All who are interested please sign up on the sheets provided at coffee hour. Questions? Ask: Laraine Wilson (Laraine.wilson@gmail.com) or Wendy Sanford (nmxcsk@yahoo.com)

MUSIC NOTES

Thank you, Special Musicians!

Thank you to our own Aline Beck for filling in at the organ on the February 19, as well as Debbie Claar and Lee Tirrell for providing special music. Thank you also to Aline Beck who filled in while Joe was with his family on March 12 following the death of his father, and to Ted Brierley and Ann-Marie Messbauer who sang with the choir that day. Aline will be playing again this month on April 23.

Special Easter Music

We'll have lots of special music at the 10:30 AM service on Easter Sunday! Come enjoy the festive sounds of our brass quintet, Adult Choir, Youth Choir, and Children's Choir. The Adult & Youth Choirs will be singing "Because He Lives" and "That Easter Day with Joy Was Bright". The Youth Choir will sing a setting of Psalm 95 entitled "Cantate Domino", and the children will sing a traditional song called "Joy, Joy, Joy."

April Rehearsals

The choirs will rehearse every Wednesday in April except for Wednesday, April 19. Youth Choir will meet from 5:45pm-6:15pm, and the adults will meet from 7:15pm-9:00pm. We always welcome new singers!

Deacons' Special Music Fund

We are very grateful to these church members and friends who have donated to the Special Music Fund recently:

- Joyce Carpenter, in memory of Sue Trefethen
- James & Doree Price, in memory of Sue Trefethen
- Anne Stafford, in memory of Sue Trefethen
- Joe Stoddard and Paul Mouratidis, in memory of Joseph Stoddard, Sr.

A Personal Note from Joe

Thank you very much for the sympathy you have given me on the death of my father, who was also Joseph Stoddard. We will have a memorial service for him here on Saturday, April 29 at 2pm. All are invited to the service and to a collation afterwards in the Education Building. In lieu of flowers, my family has asked for donations to be made to the Deacons' Special Music Fund in my father's memory.

Keep in touch!

Email: music@uccburlington.org

Twitter: @uccbmusic

Facebook: www.facebook.com/burlingtonchoirs

Google+: Joe Stoddard

³ (music@uccburlington.org)

HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL SERVICE FRIDAY, APRIL 28TH 7:30PM

Leon Rubinstein is the guest speaker. He's a Holocaust survivor and author of *As I Am Presently Known*. Leon was born in Poland in 1930. He lost his home, his parents and most of his family to the Nazi invasion when he was a child. Surviving the war against all odds — literally hiding in a hole for two years — he was smuggled into British Palestine on the cusp of Israel's War of Independence in 1948. Through the discovery of an uncle in America, Leon immigrated and began a new life in the Boston area. Everyone is invited to join this important and moving service. We will remember the horrors of the Holocaust and recommit to never, ever, allowing such atrocities to happen again. All are welcome, but please use discretion when deciding whether to bring children.

TRUE NORTH PASTOR HOURS

Tuesday, April 4th: 4pm-6pm
Thursday, April 6th: 9am-11am
Tuesday, April 11th: Holy Week- No True North Hours
Thursday, April 13th: Holy Week- No True North Hours
Tuesday, April 18th: 4pm-6pm
Thursday, April 20th: 9am-11am
Tuesday, April 25th: 4pm-6pm
Thursday, April 27th: 9am-11am

CALLING ALL TECHIES!

Note: Calling all sound system volunteers: we are considering allowing our renters to use our sound system in the Education Building. For this to work we will need people to run the sound system during rental events. People will be paid for their time. Please contact Bobbie to be added to our list of Sound System Operators to schedule training.



FROM THE GREEN TEAM

Our state is in its fifth year of below-average rain and snow falls. This means, unless the winter becomes more like 1978 we are likely to have water restrictions again this coming summer. In planning our gardens and lawns, let's plan with this in mind. ***Planting where there is shade part of the day, seeding hardier grasses and using a rain barrel are 3 simple changes that will help keep your property a little greener without wasting precious water in the coming year.***

SOLAR UPDATE



There will be a special Parish Council meeting on Tuesday April 11th at 7:15 to hear final recommendations from Team Solar Light of Christ. All congregation members who are interested are invited to attend. Parish Council members will vote to proceed.

In anticipation of an approval by Parish Council there is a tentative Congregation meeting scheduled for Sunday April 23rd following worship for the anticipated purpose of voting on the approval of the solar project.

Team Solar Light of Christ

CHARLES RIVER CLEANUP SATURDAY APRIL 29TH 9AM - NOON WALTHAM, MA

Join us for a cleanup day on the Charles River. We are pre-registered!
The first 10 people to sign up will get a FREE Tee-Shirt!
We will meet and carpool from the Church.

Questions see Larainne Wilson or Wendy Harder

Hosted by: Charles River Watershed Association



BOARD OF MISSIONS

RED WAGON



ROSIE'S PLACE

Volunteers from our church will go into Rosie's Place, a women's shelter in Boston. We are planning our next trip in on ***Saturday, May 4th*** to prepare, cook, serve and cleanup after a luncheon for these women. If you would like to join us, please contact:

Jan Mcsheffrey at afdove@verizon.net

The last Sunday of the month we take a collection of specific items needed at the Burlington Food Pantry.

We have been asked to donate the following:

**Peeled Tomatoes
Crushed Tomatoes
Stewed Tomatoes**

Please bring items to worship on ***April 30th*** and we will bring them forward during the service.



CRAFTNG FOR A CAUSE

Join us every Wednesday afternoon at 1pm in the conference room. We are working on many wonderful projects for our church whether it is something for baptisms, prayer shawls, prayer squares, things for the faire or for outreach needs. All are welcome to share in this fellowship!

FROM THE TRUSTEES

~~TIME TO CLEAN HOUSE!~~

There is a pair of large, black speakers on the Ed Building stage. If they belong to you, please take them back. If no one claims them, the Trustees will make arrangements to have them removed.

The Annual Spring Clean Up day will be held on May 6th from 9 am to 12 noon. The Trustees will be developing a list of jobs to be done that day. Sign up sheets will be posted in a couple of weeks. Please join us to help spruce up our church!

Thanks, The Trustees



BOARD OF DEACONS

EASTER FLOWERS

If you would like to purchase flowers for our Easter Service on April 16th

Flowers are \$10 per plant.

Please return your payment with the enclosed slip identifying how many plants, in memory/celebration of those you would like listed and please let us know if you are keeping your plant or donating yours to someone who has been ill, or lost a family member
Deadline for ordering is April 9th

SANCTUARY DECORATING FOR EASTER-April 15 @ 9am

The Deacons will be decorating for Easter services on Saturday morning, April 15th (the day before Easter) beginning at 9am, and we'd love to have you join us. We'll be hanging the banner, foiling plants, setting up the risers, getting cut flowers ready for the cross, getting materials ready for the pews, and a number of other activities. We need help, so please join us if you can! Any assistance is welcome and appreciated!



APRIL 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 April Fools Day! 6am –3pm Louise School of Dance Rental
2 10:30a Communion Service-school Noon Music Committee Meeting	3 3:30p Irish Step 7:30p AA 7:30p Trustees	4 4-6p True North Pastor Hours 7:15p Deacons	5 1p C4C 5:45p Yth Choir 7p Scouts 7:15p Choir 7:30p Book Study	6 9-11a True North Pastor Hours 7:30p Vision Team Meeting	7 7:00p Eggroll Class	8 Noon-4pm Private Rental Birthday!
9  PALM SUNDAY 10:20a Worship begins in the BIG Hall as we process into the Sanctuary with our Palms! 11:30a Called to Care	10 3:30p Irish Step 6:30p CE 7:30p AA	11 10a Missions 4-6p NO TRUE NORTH HOURS 7:15p PC Mtg On Solar Light	12 1p C4C 5:45p Yth Choir 7p Scouts 7:15p Choir	13 9-2p NO TRUE NORTH HOURS 7:30p Maundy Thursday Service	14 2-5pm Good Friday Mediation	15 9:00am Decorate the Sanctuary for Easter!
16 EASTER  6:30a Sunrise 9:30a Coffee Hour 9:45a Easter Egg Hunt 10:15am Easter Worship Service 11:30a Coffee Hour	17 PATRIOTS DAY Office Closed! 3:30p Irish Step 7:30p AA	18 4-6p True North Pastor Hours	19 MAY HILLTOP DEADLINE! 1p C4C 5:45p Yth Choir 7p Scouts 7:15p Choir	20 9-11a True North Pastor Hours	21	22 EARTH DAY! 
23 10:30a Worship-School 11:30a Special Congregational Meeting	24 3:30p Irish Step 7:30p AA	25 4-6p True North Pastor Hours 7:15p PC	26 9:30a Hilltop Folding/Mailing 1 C4C 5:45p Yth Choir NO SCOUTS 6p Garden Club Rental 7:15p Choir	27 9-11a True North Pastor Hours	28 Girl Scout Rental	29 9-12p Charles River Cleanup 2p Memorial Service & Reception for Joe Stoddard's Dad
30 10:30a Worship-School Red Wagon Noon Big Hall Function						

GIFT CARDS ARE AN ONGOING GIFT TO OUR CHURCH

When you buy or reload a gift card with Shop With Scrip, a percentage of what you spend comes back to the church. Our next rounds of ordering dates are timed perfectly for Easter, Mother's Day, Father's Day and graduations. Please continue to remember all the local stores, restaurants, gas stations and movie theaters that you frequent on a regular basis.

<u>Order By</u>	<u>Receive Cards</u>	<u>Occasion</u>
4/30	5/7	Mother's Day, College Grads
6/4	6/11	Father's Day, H.S. Grads



- Leave a printed order form and check made out to UCC Burlington (note "gift cards" in the memo line) in the Gift Card Orders mailbox in the church office.
- Order online at www.ShopWithScrip.com (use code BB483284315L1 to link your account to the church). Either leave a check in the Gift Card Orders mailbox in the church office, or use your own credit card to complete your online purchase. You can request traditional plastic gift cards or print paper gift cards from your home computer.
- See or email Nancy Todd to link your checking account to Shop With Scrip. This enables instant payments for your online orders. In this way you can order any time, regardless of our batched ordering dates – and the church still benefits from every order.



Our Coffee Ministry has a new coordinator! Thank you to Janine Towle for taking over in Jane's place. We are happy to continue our fellowship following worship each Sunday. Janine will be looking for hosts and bakers, remember to sign up on the chart in the hallway!

Thank you to Jane Raymond who will make the transition smooth and effortless. We are so blessed to have such wonderful members of our church family!

Deacons Committee

A NOTE OF THANKS!

Thanks to all my wonderful, caring hosts and bakers during my time as Coffee Hour Coordinator. It has been my pleasure for the past 20 something years.

The excitement and happiness when Janine Towle volunteered for this job was immense. She will be good, I have a great deal of confidence in her!

Jane Raymond

EASTER PLANT ORDER FORM

Given by: _____

In Memory /Celebration of: _____

No. of plants: **(\$10.00 each)** _____

I wish to keep my plant: _____

I wish to donate my plant: _____

I will deliver a plant: _____

I would like a plant delivered
to a UCC member/friend _____

(Name of Person)

~~Please return your payment to the church office by April 9th~~



APRIL BIRTHDAY WISHES TO:

1	Alan Beck	13	Brad Bond	24	Oksana Turgiss
9	Kristen Costa	14	Wendy Sims	25	Allison Phillips
10	Josephine Samarjian	14	Josephine Ursino	28	Kristen Harder
11	Janine Towle	15	Donald Walker	30	April Hooper
12	Luella Brown	19	Janet Hooper	30	Mark Forbush
13	Tina Brierley	21	Shirley Fong	30	Patrick Barry
13	Pam Walker	23	Jaime Cahoon		

PEOPLE TO KEEP IN OUR PRAYERS

CONDOLENCES TO:

Joe Stoddard on the loss of his Dad Joe Sr. Our heart felt sympathy to Joe, his family and friends. Keeping you in our prayers!

Donna Ferro and her Stepmom Lesley on the passing of Donna's Father. Keeping you and your family and friends in our thoughts and prayers!

CONGRATULATIONS to Robert and Wynelle Scenna on the birth of their first Grandchild! Their son, Matt, and his wife, Cynthia had a beautiful baby boy on Thursday, his name is Ivan Alexander Scenna.

PRAYERS:

Tom Killilea
Chris Cahoon
Don Walker's brother Bruce
Susan and Jen Eby's friend John
Dorothy Murdoch' and granddaughter Meghan
Janice Grace

Donna Flecchia
Larainne Wilson's dad Allen
Larainne and Sheri's Friend Alisa Safely Macone
Deb Glancy's friend Mario
Jan Blandino and her great grandson Brandon Contoni
Carol Downing's husband Ron
Sheila Vitale
Nick Ciano's Mom Jenny
Bobbie's friend John Ford
Kendra's Grandfather Phil
Jessy McNeil's Brother Mel, Mom Ellen and Sister Grace
Anne Stafford's grandsons Tyler and Zach
Dot Drinkwater
Ruth Reddig
Everett Langley and his brother George
John Heald's sister Susan & Mom
Aimee Tredeau's friend Amanda
Barbara Moran's friend Heather
Ginger Mungillo's son, Jim
Fred Garside

United Church of Christ, Congregational
6 Lexington Street
Burlington, MA 01803
Address Service Requested



APRIL 2017



Holy Week

April 9th Palm Sunday Worship at 10:20AM in the Big Hall to gather our Palms

April 13 Maundy Thursday Service 7:00pm Communion by Intinction

April 14 Good Friday Quiet Meditation 2-5pm

April 16 Easter Sunrise Service at 6:30am outside!

Easter Egg Hunt 9:45am

Easter Festival Service with communion and music 10:15am

All Are Welcome!

