

# MARCH 2019 HILLTOP HERALD

Rev. Angela V. Wells-Bean  
 Pastor

Chris Silva  
 Moderator

**CONTENTS**

Pastor Message	1
Ash Wednesday	2
Lenten Book Study	2
WISE Update	2
TRUE North	
Pastor Hours	2
Reading Group	2
Howl At The Steeple Event	3
Fundraising IDEAS	3
Christian Ed	4
Green Team Info	5
Project Bread	5
Missions	6
-Red Wagon	
-Rosie's Place	
-LTLC	
-OGHS	
-C4C	
Music Ministry	7
Prayers, Joys	
Concerns	8
Worship Schedule	9-10
Calendar	11

Dear Church Family,

Our lives are a constant cycle of things being born and things dying, things coming and things going, memories being made and memories fading from our minds, welcoming new babies into the world and saying goodbye to those whose lives have come to an end, watching the spring buds burst forth and watching the leaves fall off the trees. Our lives are a cycle of cultivating and letting go. Our job is to not hold on too tightly, but to ride the waves of these ups and downs.

Our worship theme for the season of Lent will be Cultivate and Let Go. Each week, we'll hear a different story about Jesus' life and ministry and we will look at what he had to cultivate and what he had to let go of in each situation. During worship, Karen Ciardi, who is training to become a certified yoga teacher (!!!) will lead us through intentional breathing exercises. She will help us to inhale that which we want to cultivate in our own lives, and exhale that which we want to let go of. I hope that this season of 40 days will help us draw closer to the God who created our breath, who is the constant presence in our lives amidst the cultivating and letting go.

Also, be sure to keep an eye on the weekly emailing because each week you'll see a poem about cultivating and letting go. I hope that in this season of Lent, you have the wisdom to nurture that which you want to cultivate, and you have the faith to release your grip on that which you need to let go of.

As we make our way to Ash Wednesday, which is the start of this season, I leave you with this poem...

Thumb to forehead, that's how this begins—  
 A thin dust reminder that life, in time, ends.

So how do I want to spend my days?  
 How do I live a life that weighs  
 Heavy with love and heavy with truth, Heavy with memories of laughter and you?

And is that what matters, at the end of the day?  
 Or is it justice and peace and the sound of your name?

Thumb to forehead. Remind me again.  
 That this precious life begins and ends.  
 And like the trees in autumn, may I learn to let go,  
 Making room in my heart for a new kind of growth.

A change in seasons, a change in me.  
 Thumb to forehead. Let it be.  
*-By Sarah Are, of A Sanctified Art LLC*

With Love and Gratitude,

Rev. Angela Wells-Bean





### ASH WEDNESDAY MARCH 6 AT 7PM

Join us on Wednesday, March 6th at 7pm for a contemplative service to mark the beginning of the sacred season of Lent. This is a chance for us to pause and reconnect with God as we prepare our hearts and minds to journey with Jesus towards Jerusalem.

### LENTEN BOOK STUDY

Our worship theme for Lent is 'Cultivate and Let Go.' Our book study for Lent is The Gifts of Imperfection by Brene Brown. In the book, she will lead us through 10 guideposts of things we should cultivate and let go of in our lives. All are welcome to participate in this introspective discussion. ***We'll meet each Thursday from March 7th through April 11th from 7:30-9:00pm*** in the Conference Room. Please see the signup sheet or contact Angela (RevWells@UCCBurlington.org) if you plan to participate.

### WISE Update

As a reminder, our church has formed a committee focused on making our church WISE (Welcoming, Inclusive, Supportive, Engaged) as a support for all of us who struggle with various levels of mental health. You will be seeing some new posters and flyers in various places around the hallway, bathrooms and Sewell hall. We have also scheduled a worship service on March 24th which will be focused on mental health. A big issue with mental health is that many people feel a stigma attached to it and theretofore do not seek help and or feel ashamed. We want to work to eliminate the stigma so that we all can feel as comfortable talking about mental health as we do sharing issues with our physical health.

### TRUE NORTH HOURS:

Join Pastor Angela for coffee and a chat at our local coffee shop here in Burlington. True North is located at 204 Cambridge St., Burlington.

March hours are:



- Tuesday, March 5th: 4pm-6pm
- Thursday, March 7th: **Cancelled.**
- Tuesday, March 12th: 4pm-6pm
- Thursday, March 14th: 9am-11am
- Tuesday, March 19th: **Cancelled.**
- Thursday, March 21st: **Cancelled.**
- Tuesday, March 26th: 4pm-6pm
- Thursday, March 28th: 9am-11am

### LORD BARON READING GROUP UPDATE



As many of you heard from Nancy Todd at the Annual Meeting, we're launching a reading group in June at the Lord Baron apartment complex. Right now we're working with the management to find a specific location for the program. If you are interested in participating, please see the signup sheet or contact Angela or Lucy Damiani and we'll keep you informed of the next steps. This spring, there will be a training for all interested volunteers. Stay tuned for more details.

## HOWL AT THE STEEPLE FUNDRAISER ON MARCH 2ND!



Howl at Steeple is a sing-a-long with a twist. This fundraiser is sure to bring back great memories as folks request their favorite tunes. This will be a night of music and laughter as our MC and musicians lead us through songs, competitions, trivia and games. Light refreshments will be served.

If you've ever been to Howl at the Moon or an Irish pub, you know how much fun these events can be. The UCC's event though has three added benefits:

- It is rated PG, making this a great event for all ages (recommended for tweens and up.)
- It supports the ministries of the United Church of Christ, Congregational, which include local charities such as People Helping People, Rosie's Place, Lowell Shelter, and a reading/homework program to help local Burlington residents, just to name a few.
- It is in Burlington! Usually you'll need to go into the city for this kind of fun.

Tickets for Howl at the Steeple are \$10.00 each or save money and get a table for \$80 (10 guests). Please call the UCC Burlington at 781-272-4547 to reserve a table or tickets. Tickets will be available at the door or in advance through the UCC Burlington. Donations are made for song requests and volunteering your friends (or yourself) to participate in minute-to-win-it type games, activities and competitions.



### IDEAS! CREATIVITY! WE NEED IT!

With a deficit budget, we are looking at how to best handle fundraisers – Which one's work? What could work better? What should we try? We are hosting a Fundraising Forum after church services on Sunday, March 3<sup>rd</sup>, in the conference room to brainstorm ways to fund-raise for the church more effectively. Joining us does NOT mean you are volunteering to run a fundraiser, only that you would like to share your ideas and creativity to help the church meet its' financial goals. If you are running, or plan to run, a fundraiser, please join us so that you can learn some new ideas that might help your efforts and how we can better support you in your efforts.

A sign up sheet will be at coffee hour, just so we get an idea of how many people will be joining us.

## NEWS FROM CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

The students spent January preparing for their first time joining the congregation to participate in communion on 2/3. The older children enjoyed the experience & were reading along with the bulletin, the younger children had appropriate coloring pictures.

During December the kids saved up their change for the Heifer Project & played games to win change to donate. Kendra explained why chickens, ducks or bees would be a helpful gift to someone. The kids choose bees because honey lasts forever & bees pollinate. They collected enough to not only purchase bees, but chickens too!

### INTERGENERATIONAL EVENT

Could you hear the laughter & squabbling at your house on Sat. 1/26? Well that was a competitive group playing Team Jeopardy! Deb Glancy was our Alex (she called herself Alexa), Kathy & Brenda were the score keepers (Yes it took 2!) We already have a group clamoring for a rematch, so watch the calendar for another Jeopardy night.

### UPCOMING INTERGENERATIONAL EVENTS SCHEDULED

Intergenerational activities are meant for all ages to attend. Some activities are broken into age groups & some are all together.

#### Sun. March 24, 2PM Altitude Trampoline Park, Billerica



#### Sun. April 14 after church



*Get in shape, Bicycle from Burlington to Lexington mostly on bike path*

#### Sat. May 5 morning Earth Day Cleanup at UCC



**DURING LENT - MARCH 6<sup>TH</sup> TO APRIL 20<sup>TH</sup>  
THE GREEN TEAM CHALLENGES YOU TO PARTICIPATE IN OUR  
BAN THE BAG INITIATIVE**

Part of the Church's goals for 2019 include this statement "We will faithfully strive to improve our environmental footprint ..." The Green team would like to challenge you to Ban the Bag for Lent.

It is common for people to give something up for Lent, so this year, the Green Team is asking you to give up single-use plastic bags. This will improve your environmental footprint. Changing your behavior will prepare you to meet the recent Town Meeting vote which banned the use of single-use plastic bags beginning May 1st. You might ask: what are single-use bags? They are the bags that grocery stores, CVS, Kohl's, etc. use to package your purchase. It is estimated that these bags are used for only 15 minutes and are then discarded. Sadly, for the most part, these bags are not recyclable. So this Lenten challenge will give you 40 days to reinforce the behavior of bringing a reusable bag into the store with you to carry home your purchases.



**To help you achieve this Lenten goal, the Green Team will be selling sturdy reusable plastic bags with the church logo on them starting early March at coffee hour. They will be \$5 each or 3 for \$12.**

**A second challenge** is to use mesh bags rather than the small thin plastic bags supplied by the grocery stores to put loose vegetables or fruits such as tomatoes, lemons and green beans into. This kind of plastic bag is also single-use (i.e. bad for the environment) but is not part of the Burlington Bag Ban. These mesh bags can be ordered online or we will also have some available for sale for \$2 each. See a member of the Green Team to purchase these when you buy your reusable church bags in March.



Keep Track of how many bags you estimate you do not use during Lent, so that at the end of the season we can see how many bags we collectively saved! For the purpose of this challenge we will assume when shopping for groceries using a reusable bag will save 2 single-use bags. In other stores you will have to estimate how many bags you have saved.

Lent begins March 6<sup>th</sup> and ends April 20<sup>th</sup>. The Sunday after Easter, the Church will be recognizing Earth Day. Any time during the week of April 22 you may record your grand total of bags saved (i.e. not accepted) on a chart that will be outside Bobbie's office. Do you think we can save 2 thousand or more bags? Let's try!

Thank you for working with us to protect the environment!  
The Green Team



**WALK FOR HUNGER  
AND HELP  
THE BURLINGTON PANTRY!**

We are forming a team to walk in *Project Bread's Walk for Hunger* this year. The entry fee is \$25 and the walk is on Sunday, May 5th on the Boston Common. You can choose the 3 mile or the 20 mile walk. The church will sponsor anyone who participates. The good news is that if you walk with the People Helping People team, 60% of the money raised will go directly to our local food pantry! If you want to register or donate, speak with Angela and she will give you all the information. Thank you for helping to support our local food pantry!

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If you receive the Hilltop electronically. Click on this link to donate or register:

[http://support.projectbread.org/site/TR/Walk/WalkforHunger?team\\_id=80616&pg=team&fr\\_id=1380](http://support.projectbread.org/site/TR/Walk/WalkforHunger?team_id=80616&pg=team&fr_id=1380)

## MISSIONS UPDATE!



### RED WAGON

The last Sunday of each month we collect non-perishable goods for our local Burlington Pantry. In March the pantry is in need of:

**Applesauce-ramen noodle soup-tissues  
Also...diapers size 3-4-5-6 and baby wipes**

Bring to worship on March 31st!

### ROSIE'S PLACE-BOSTON

Volunteers for Rosie's Place (a woman's shelter in Boston) on May 18th! Look for more information in your weekly email blast and the April Hilltop. Thanks to all who have volunteered this year!



### LOWELL TRANSITIONAL LIVING CENTER

The shelter is in need of the following used items for both MEN and WOMEN:

Warm coats  
Warm sweatshirts  
Gloves/socks/underwear/Jeans

See the bin located outside the church office area. Dave Ierardi will take and drop off in Lowell Thank you for your donations

### ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING! March 31 during worship!

The theme for OGHS "More than we can imagine!" is based on Ephesians 3:20 and reminds us that we are not alone in our imagining a better world for all of God's children. For it is God's imagination that fuels and empowers ours! You see, God imagines a world where no one is left to face the ravages of natural disaster alone - neighbor helps neighbor, stranger helps stranger - for we are the church together.

And God also imagines Christians of many traditions, coming together to help make these things ever more a reality for more and more people! For you see, our imagination of what might be is founded and grounded in what God envisions and hopes for. We can help - through our gifts of treasure and talent, prayer, and presence to make this world ever more like the way God imagine it would be! Please, give generously to the One Great Hour of Sharing special offering on March 31st, so that your imagination might indeed be ever more joined with God's!

Special envelopes will be in the pews on March 31st, but you can always send a donation to the church. Make the check out to UCC and put OGHS on the memo line.

### CRAFTING FOR A CAUSE

No idles hands this month at the C4C gatherings. Shawls, baby sweaters, and fingerless mittens have been coming off our needles. We will meet at 1 every Wednesday in March. **On March 13 we will move our meeting out of the conference room. Read the blast on the 12<sup>th</sup> to determine the alternate meeting place.** In support of the Church goals for 2019 of improving our environmental foot print we wish to let you know that we have mesh vegetable bags left over from last year's Fair. At \$2 each they are inexpensive, washable, handmade and can be used to replace the plastic ones supplied by grocery stores.





**Thank you, Special Musicians!**

We are very grateful to soprano Debbie Claar and organist Aline Beck for their music on February 17. Thank you so much for sharing your talents with us!

**Welcome, John!**

It's been the choir's pleasure to welcome John Getsinger as a regular member of the choir this year. John started singing with us for Advent and Christmas last year and we are delighted that he has chosen to continue sharing his talents in the bass section.



**March Rehearsals**

We welcome new singers to help us prepare for Easter!

**Adult Choir:** March 20<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> at 7:15 pm

(there will be no rehearsals on March 6<sup>th</sup> or 13<sup>th</sup>)

**Children's Choir:** March 3<sup>rd</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, 24<sup>th</sup>, and 31<sup>st</sup> at noon

(there will be no rehearsal on March 17<sup>th</sup>)

**The Adult Choir's warm-up rehearsal for the Ash Wednesday service** will be at 6:15 pm on March 6<sup>th</sup>.

**Deacons' Special Music Fund**

We are very grateful to Anne Grunert, who donated to the Special Music Fund in memory of Sue Trefethen.

**Keep in touch!**

**Email:** [music@uccburlington.org](mailto:music@uccburlington.org)

**Twitter:** @uccbmusic

**Facebook:** [www.facebook.com/burlingtonchoirs](http://www.facebook.com/burlingtonchoirs)

# Prayer Concerns

Laura Nowell's friend Mary  
 Janice and Augie Grace's cousin David  
 Deb Glancy's friend Grace  
 Riley Watkins, friend of the Tredeau Family  
 Betty Knowles and friend Janet Hurley  
 Ron and Erika Downing  
 Joe Stoddard and his husband Paul  
 Bill Proctor  
 Jean Bastos  
 J. Beyers (Relative of Kate)  
 Lucy and Rollie Damiani's brother-in-law  
 Vito "Chickie" Bucco  
 Dave Williamson  
 Rev. Elizabeth King  
 Jan Blandino  
 Aimee Tredeau's friend Amanda  
 Anne Stafford, her son Bill,  
 grandsons Tyler and Zach

Marion Braley Freeman and her niece Beth  
 Bobbie Martino  
 Barbara Garland  
 Ann Onthank  
 Jessy McNeil's brother Mel and sister Grace  
 Henry Knopp  
 Bobbie & Tom's friends John and Ed  
 Dot Drinkwater  
 Ruth Reddig  
 Everett Langley's brother George  
 John Heald's sister Susan & Mom



3	Ann Onthank
3	Cindy Brown
7	Barbara Moran
7	Paul Raymond
12	Laura Nowell
14	Josie Ursino
15	Stephen Jacobs
17	Erika Downing
26	Laura Breau
26	Kyle Lawrence
26	Libby Samarjian
28	Alysa (Davis) Johnson

# WORSHIP SCHEDULE

March 3	Communion Prep: Dave Ieradi Lay Leader: Marcia Rich Head Usher: Paul Raymond *Ushers: Paul – Volunteers needed Greeter: Ginger Mungillo School: Deb Raymond Nursery: Kristen Watanabe-Mark Flecchia Flower Deliverer: Nancy Davis Collector: Marge Zamanian Coffee Hour: Chris Stahlinski Bakers: <u>Nancy Todd-Karen Welch</u>
March 6 7:00pm	<b>ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE</b> Lay Leader Mark Flecchia Head Usher Dave Ieradi Greeters <u>Barbara Moran</u>
March 10 10:30am	Lay Leader: Emily DeLuca Head Usher: Dick Butler Ushers: Dick and Karen Butler Barbara Moran-Kari Lynch Greeter: Ginger Mungillo School: Deb Raymond Nursery: Kristen Watanabe-Donna Flecchia Flower Deliverer: Janice Grace Collector: Dick Butler Coffee Hour: Nancy Davis Bakers: <u>Shirley Fong-Karen Welch</u>
March 17 10:30am	Lay Leader: Karen Ciardi Head Usher: Conrad Fong Ushers: Conrad-Wynelle Scenna Chris and Gary Stahlinski Greeter: Carol Downing School: Deb Raymond Nursery: Kristen Watanabe-Mark Flecchia Flower Deliverer: Bill Livezy Collector: Everett Langley Coffee Hour: Donna Flecchia Bakers: <u>Sally Willard-Emily DeLuca</u>
March 24 10:30am	Lay Leader: Conrad Fong Head Usher: Deb Glancy Deb Glancy-Donna Ferro Ushers: Everett Langley-John Heald Greeter: Anne Stafford School: Deb Raymond Nursery: Kristen Watanabe-Paul Raymond Flower Deliverer: Cindy Phillips Collector: Deb Raymond Coffee Hour: John Heald & Everett Langley Bakers: <u>Barbara Leonard-Marge Zamanian</u>

Continued on next page!

## WORSHIP SCHEDULE

March 31 10:30am	Lay Leader: Head Usher: Ushers:  Greeter: School: Nursery: Flower Deliverer: Collector: Coffee Hour: Bakers:	Debbie Claar Janine Towle Janine-Marcia Rich John Getsinger-Gordon Brown Kay Shute Deb Raymond Kristen Watanabe-Bev Maher Marge Zamanian Barbara Moran CE/Sunday School CE/Sunday School
<hr/>		
April 7	Communion Prep: Lay Leader: Head Usher: Ushers: Greeter: School: Nursery: Flower Deliverer: Collector: Coffee Hour: Bakers:	Jessy McNeil-Jan McSheffrey Sarah Clark Mark Flecchia Mark -Volunteers needed Barbara Moran Deb Raymond Kristen Watanabe-Jan McSheffrey Anna Karwan Wynelle Scenna Janine Towle & Kay Shute Kay Shute-Nancy Todd

If you cannot participate in the above schedule and need to make a swap, please contact Donna Flecchia at [dmflec@gmail.com](mailto:dmflec@gmail.com)

If you cannot participate in coffee hour please contact Janine Towle at [msjaninetowle@gmail.com](mailto:msjaninetowle@gmail.com)

# March 2019



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2 7pm "Howl at the Steeple" 
3 10:30a Communion-School Noon Youth Choir 12:30p Fundraiser Brainstorming Meeting	4 <b>7:30p AA</b> 7:30p Trustees	5 4-6p True North Hours 7:15p Deacons	6 1p C4C 6:15p Adult Choir  7pm ASH Wed Service Beginning of <b>LENT</b>	7 NO True North Pastor Hours <b>6:30p SLAA</b> 7:30p <b>Lenten</b> Book Study	8 <b>6pm Pinewood Derby setup and test run</b>	9 <b>11p Pinewood Derby</b>
10 <b>LENT</b> 10:30a Worship School-Love Offering Noon Missions Mtg Noon Youth Choir	11 <b>7:30p AA</b>	12 4-6p True North Hours	13 11a Clergy Mtg 1p C4C location TBD <b>7p Scouts</b> 7:15 NO Choir	14 9-11a True North Pastor Hours <b>6:30p SLAA</b> 7:30p <b>Lenten</b> Book Study	15	16
17 <b>LENT</b>  St. Patrick's Day! 10:30a Worship School NO Youth Choir Noon Green Team Mt	18 <b>7:30p AA</b>	19 NO True North Hours 7:15p PC	20 1p C4C <b>7p Scouts</b> 7:15 Choir <b>HILLTOP DEADLINE</b>	21 NO True North Pastor Hours <b>6:30p SLAA</b> 7:30p <b>Lenten</b> Book Study	22	23
24 <b>LENT</b> 10:30a Worship School Noon Youth Choir 2p Trampoline Park	25 <b>7:30p AA</b>	26 4-6p True North Hours	27 9:30a Hilltop Folding 1p C4C <b>7p Scouts</b> 7:15 Choir	28 9-11a True North Pastor Hours <b>6:30p SLAA</b> 7:30p <b>Lenten</b> Book Study	29 <b>5-10p Private Rental</b>	30
31 <b>LENT</b> 10:30a Worship-Baptism-School Red Wagon Noon Youth Choir <b>ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING</b>						

UCC  
6 Lexington Street  
Burlington, MA 01803  
Address Service Requested



**MARCH / 2019**