

## HILLTOP HERALD—MARCH 2020

Rev. Angela V. Wells-Bean  
Pastor

Sally Willard  
Moderator

### CONTENTS

Pastor Message	1
Holy Week	2
Devotional Booklets	2
From the Moderator	2
Easter Plants	2
Deacons News	2
Book Club	3
True North Hours	3
Guest Preacher	3
Jericho Walk	3
Metro Boston News	3
Missions	4
-Red Wagon	
-Rosie's Place	
-Crafting for a Cause	
-One Great Hour of Sharing	
-Missions Snip-its	
Music/Choir news	5
Green Team News	6
FUNDRAISERS	7
-Friendly Toast	
-Gift Card Program	
-Yard Sale Update	
-Amazonsmile	
Christian Ed	8
-Sunday School	
-Intergenerational	
Upcoming Events	
Joys-Prayers	
And Concerns	9
Worship Schedule	10
Calendar	11
Forms	Insert

Dear Church Family,

My February Hilltop article was all about how the Boston area is not exactly known for its kindness, and that's something that each of us can work to change. A few weeks later, a couple of church members came to visit me at True North because they had an idea. They wanted to kick off a kindness campaign! We spoke about how that's what the world needs right now, more kindness, more compassion, more understanding, more graciousness towards one another. As Christians, this is one of the basic tenants of our faith, as modeled for us by Jesus and in the Hebrew Bible. Micah 6:8 reminds us, *"And what does the Lord require of you? To act justly and to love kindness and to walk humbly with your God."* And Proverbs (11:17) offers these words of wisdom, *"Those who are kind reward themselves, but the cruel do themselves harm."* This also dovetails beautifully with our church goal for the year which is rooted in the scripture from the book of Hebrews, *"Let us think of ways to motivate one another to acts of love and good works."* (10:24)

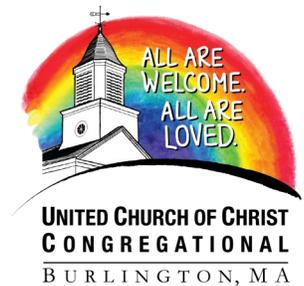
During our conversation at True North, we spoke about how maybe we should encourage church members to *take on* something for Lent, instead of, or in addition to, the traditional ritual of giving something up. What better habit to take on during this Lenten season than kindness? So that's what we're doing. The theme for Lent will be: Taking On Kindness. These church members had some wonderful ideas for how we can motivate one another to love and good works. All shall be revealed during our first Sunday of Lent, March 1<sup>st</sup>. You don't want to miss it.

I am looking forward to worshipping with you on Sunday, March 1<sup>st</sup> as we commit to living out God's love and kindness in the world during the season of Lent. See you there!

With Love and Kindness,

*Rev. Angela Wells-Bean*

Pastor Angela and her co-conspirators



## LOOKING AHEAD TO HOLY WEEK:

Mark your calendars for the following upcoming events:

**Sunday, April 5th:** Palm Sunday worship, begins at 10:20am in Sewall Hall

**Thursday, April 9th:** Maundy Thursday Service at 7:00pm

**Sunday, April 12th:** Easter Festival service at 10:15am and the baptism of Martha Ursino



### EASTER PLANTS

If you would like to order Easter Plants to have at our Easter Morning Worship Service on **April 12** see the form attached.

**Each plant is \$10.**

Let us know who they are in memory/celebration/honor of and if you are keeping your plant after the service or donating to someone who would enjoy it.

Return form and payment to the church office.

**Ordering deadline is April 5th**

### LENTEN DEVOTIONAL BOOKLETS AVAILABLE

Beloved Ones,

Many of us are busy, we don't have time to attend one more church event, we're lucky to get to church on Sunday morning. But we still want to incorporate our faith into our daily lives. Our church has a resource for you! We have beautiful devotional booklets available for the season of Lent. They involve prayer, scriptures and reflections. They'll be available in the church office, and on the counter in Sewall Hall. Please help yourself. We hope this will help you stay rooted in your faith as we journey together towards Easter.

Sincerely,  
Pastor Angela

### FROM THE MODERATOR

Thank you for your faith and trust that I will fill this important role honorably. I look forward to meeting and working with members I would not otherwise know.

Best,  
Sally Willard



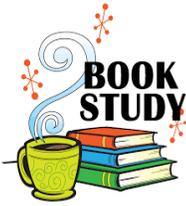
### NEWS FROM THE DEACONS

At the February Deacon's meeting Deb Glancy was elected to be our chairperson for another year. We spent time discussing our duties as described in the Constitution and we feel that the 2020 Church Goal helps define the role of a deacon. Our members also assist the Called to Care committee, the Music Subcommittee, Safe Church committee and the Sabbatical planning group as part of our combined missions of ministry.



In an effort to reach everyone with information about our church the Deacons have been working with Rev. Wells-Bean to evaluate the communications survey which was conducted in February. We are also considering feedback received regarding changing the times of Christmas Eve worship services. We will be exploring more ways to offer fellowship opportunities to the wider community, such as potluck or community dinners. We are asking everyone to take a few postcards which advertise the schedule of our Lenten and Easter services. Please send one to your friends or someone you haven't seen lately. They are available at coffee hour or in the office and your help is appreciated!

With the last of the trimmings of Christmas and Epiphany removed from the sanctuary, and Ash Wednesday just behind us, it is time for the journey through Lent. There will be no banner hung over the cross until we travel these 40 days to Easter Sunday. During this time of reflection we are invited by Rev. Wells-Bean to join her in reading "Christianity for the Rest of Us: How the Neighborhood Church is Transforming the Faith" by Diana Butler Bass. Group discussions will be held on Monday March 30 from 9-11 AM and from 7-9 PM. All are Welcome, All are Loved!



## CHURCH BOOK CLUB

Thank you to everyone who is participating in our monthly book discussions. For the month of March, we are reading *Christianity for the Rest of Us: How the Neighborhood Church Is Transforming the Faith* by Diana Butler Bass. Instead of Thursday night, this month we are meeting on **MONDAY, March 30th from 9am-11am or from 7pm-9pm**. Come to the time that works best for you.

Here's a little bit of information about the book:

For decades the accepted wisdom has been that America's mainline Protestant churches are in decline, eclipsed by evangelical mega-churches. Church and religion expert Diana Butler Bass wondered if this was true, and this book is the result of her extensive, three-year study of centrist and progressive churches across the country. Her surprising findings reveal just the opposite; that many of the churches are flourishing, and they are doing so without resorting to mimicking the mega-church, evangelical style. *Christianity for the Rest of Us* describes this phenomenon and offers a how-to approach for Protestants eager to remain faithful to their tradition while becoming a vital spiritual community.

### TRUE NORTH COFFEE SHOP PASTOR HOURS

Pastor Angela's Hours for March 2020:  
Wednesday, March 4th: Cancelled  
Wednesday, March 11th: 8:30-10:30am  
Wednesday, March 18th: 8:30am-10:30am  
Wednesday, March 25th: 8:30am-10:30am

### CHRIS STAHLINKSI PREACHING

On Sunday, March 29th, we have the treat of hearing Chris Stahlinski preach. She will preach on the parable of the Good Samaritan through the lens of climate change. Pastor Angela will co-lead worship with Chris. Please join us for this special service.

### JERICHO WALKS CONTINUING

Wind, rain, snow or sleet... we walk. We walk for the dignity of all people in our country, citizens, undocumented people and employees of our Dept. of Homeland Security. The current immigration practices are tearing at the fabric of our communities and they're beneath us as a country. We can do better. Our walks take place at the Immigration Customs and Enforcement (ICE) Enforcement and Removal Office in Burlington, MA. The address is 1000 District Ave. **We walk on the 3rd Tuesday of every month at 1pm** (think 3-2-1). These walks are organized by Burlington Area Clergy for Justice. Pastor Angela is one of the leaders. Please reach out to her if you have any questions. We hope to see you at the next walk on March 17th!

### METRO BOSTON ASSOCIATION NEWS

Rev. Wendy Vanderhart has been the Associate Conference Minister of the Metro Boston Association for many years. She saw our church through our pastoral transition and she was at Angela's installation service. She has resigned from her position and is going to be the interim pastor at a church in Minnesota. A farewell and celebration of her ministry will be on Sunday March 22 at 5:30 p.m. at First Congregational Church in Winchester, 21 Church Street. As Wendy has been a great asset to the churches and clergy in our Association, she will be deeply missed and all are invited to attend her farewell on March 22nd.

On a related note, lots of changes are taking place in the life of our wider church as we live into our new identity as the Southern New England Conference of the UCC. The Massachusetts Conference officially merged with the Connecticut and Rhode Island Conferences this past summer. Wendy's position will be filled, in the interim, by Rev. Holly MillerShank, who most recently served at the UCC National Offices in Cleveland, OH.

## MISSIONS UPDATE!



### RED WAGON

The last Sunday of the month we are asked to donate non-perishable goods to help stock the shelves at the Burlington Pantry. We have been asked to donate again:

Juice Packets, Vegetable oil and Bottles of Juice  
Bring to worship on March 24th!

### ROSIE'S PLACE-BOSTON

For forty years we've had the privilege of serving lunches at Rosie's Place. We now find that the drive in and the parking are very difficult, the work is heavy, and they have many volunteers. We will continue to support Rosie's Place as one of our benevolences. Thank you to all who have participated in this worthwhile and rewarding endeavor.



### CRAFTING FOR A CAUSE

C4C meets at 1:00 every Wednesday in the Conference Room. Hats, scarves, baby sweaters, mittens, blankets, and prayer shawls are (miraculously) coming off their needles. What isn't sold at the Fair in the fall will be distributed to several organizations from the Wish Tree in Burlington to the Lowell Transitional Living Center and Dana Farber in Boston. In keeping with our Church Goal for 2020, those in C4C support each other and travel together, "motivating one another to acts of love and good works." Please join them whenever you would like for crafting and/or fellowship.

### ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING MARCH 29TH DURING WORSHIP

The theme for OGHS is based on 1 Corinthians 3:9. "For we are co-workers in God's service; you are God's field, God's building." The offering this year is intended to plant seeds of new life. Together, we are investing in communities world-wide, providing education to girls and boys, empowering communities through vocational training, seeing people through to self-sufficiency, and participating in sustainable solutions that offer dignity to all. Through your generosity, the world is a better place. But more is needed. Today, you have an opportunity to plant seeds into the lives of others. Be a co-worker with God. Building, planting, and watering... and trusting that God gives growth to all good gifts shared in faith. Thank you for your partnership. Thank you for your generosity.

**Special envelopes will be in the pews on March 29th**, but you can always send a donation to the church. Make check out to UCC and put OGHS on the memo line.

### MISSIONS SNIP-ITS

Missions met on Sunday, February 9th.

Co-chairs Barbara Moran and Joan Zink), treasurer (Barbara Moran), and secretary (Dennis Huebner) were appointed.

Tasks were delegated for work that we do throughout the year, including the Wish Tree, City Missions, PHP, the Pumpkin Patch, Sister Joyce, C4C, and Special Offerings. These include OGHS, Easter, Blanket Sunday, Neighbors in Need, and Christmas. We discussed logistics and decided to transition from serving meals at Rosie's Place to supporting them as one of our benevolences.

Dennis will contact Sister Joyce about the next clothing pickup.

**Our next meeting is Sunday, March 9th, at noon.**



## NEWS FROM THE DIRECTOR OF MUSIC MINISTRY

### **Children's Choir to Sing March 8<sup>th</sup>**

Our Children's Choir will sing in worship on Sunday, March 8. They will be singing a Lenten song called "Make My Heart Your Home".

### **Thank you, Deana and Joan!**

Deana Tredeau and Joan Zink have taken on the project of re-cataloguing the choral library. They are re-vamping our organizational system and computerizing everything, building on work started by Deana some years ago and continued by Marj Zamanian. We are extremely fortunate they are willing to put so much time and effort into this project!

### **Welcome, Marcia!**

We are very happy to welcome Marcia Rich into our alto section. Marcia has sung with us for the past two Advent and Christmas seasons and has now begun singing with us on a regular basis.



### **Sing for Easter!**

We welcome singers who would like to join the Adult Choir or the Children's Choir to sing with us for Easter! The Children's Choir will start learning Easter music on Sunday, March 8 after church and the Adult Choir will begin working on Easter music by Wednesday, March 11 at our 7:15 pm rehearsal. We would love you to join us for the season!

### **March Rehearsals**

The Children's Choir will rehearse every Sunday in March from 12pm to 12:30 pm. The Adult Choir will rehearse every Wednesday in March at 7:15 pm.

### **Organ Music for Lent**

You will notice a distinct change in the organ music for the season of Lent. We hit a crescendo on Transfiguration Sunday (the last Sunday before Lent) with Buxtehude's vivacious Praeludium (Prelude, Fugue, and Chaconne) in C Major, and then the mood changed drastically with pieces like the Prelude to the Kyrie from *Hommage à Frescobaldi* by Langlais on Ash Wednesday. This more *penitential* and *reflective* mood will continue throughout the Sundays of Lent.

### **Keep in touch!**

Email: [music@ucburlington.org](mailto:music@ucburlington.org)

Twitter: @ucbmusic

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



**SAVE THE DATES:**

March 22 the Green Team will sponsor a potluck meatless lunch.  
In April *The Just Peace Players* will be at Church sharing a play about environmental issues.

Our Sunday Bulletin says “We strive to respond to the needs of our town and world with practical deeds of love.”

We begin Lent on Ash Wednesday, February 26<sup>th</sup>. During Lent we hope that you will strive to show more kindness towards the earth. First we invite you to join us for a potluck meatless lunch during coffee hour on March 22. Bring your favorite meatless dish to share with the congregation and the recipe which will be shared online. We hope that you will have 1 or 2 meatless dinners each week during Lent and continue to have meatless meals after Easter. Eating a meatless meal is kinder for the earth.

People often give up something for Lent such as eating chocolate. The Green Teams wants to suggest that you take on an activity that shows kindness towards the Earth. At our last meeting we came up with several suggestions. But there are many other ways to show that you are doing something that makes you a kinder steward of our earth. Our suggestions of such activities follow:

- Turn off excess light** – saving energy and adding less carbon dioxide to the atmosphere
- Car pool to work or Church**- saving energy and adding less carbon dioxide to the atmosphere
- Walk to Church if possible**
- Use only reusable bags not plastic bags** – saving fossil fuel and not adding to our none degradable waste
- Decrease the use of your clothes dryer by hanging you wash up to dry** - saving energy and adding less carbon dioxide to the atmosphere
- Make sure your dishwasher and clothes washer are full before you run it**- saving energy and adding less carbon dioxide to the atmosphere
- Have meatless meals** on Mondays and Wednesday or Wednesdays and Fridays throughout Lent. Avoiding meat is kinder for the earth
- Decrease the amount of red meat (beef and pork) that you eat**
- Organize your car trips around town so you do all of your errands in near proximity at the same time**

# MARK YOUR CALENDAR....

## the Friendly Toast

**At the Burlington Mall  
Wednesday March 11th - from 4pm to 9pm**

Invite your family and friends to "The Friendly Toast",  
at the Burlington Mall.

Enjoy dinner and drinks - 20% of net sales that evening will be donated to the church!  
Win-Win for everyone!

Great food, Great Company - Fundraising for our Church  
and it will introduce new faces to "The Friendly Toast"!

You don't need a flyer or slip to attend.... JUST GO!  
Great Gluten Free and Vegan food!



### **Wine Tasting Class @ Total Wine in Burlington "Tip to Toe-A Tour of Italy"**

**Saturday, May 2nd 7-9pm**

**Sunday, May 3rd 2-4pm**

**Hors d'oeuvres & Silent Auction**

**Tickets \$35 per person and are limited!**

**Call the office to get your tickets today!**



### **GIANT YARD SALE**

**Saturday, June 20, 9 - 2**

People have asked if there will be  
a yard sale this year. Yes, there will!

Please set aside what you can.

More information later.

Date is tentative, subject to approval  
by Parish Council.

### **GIFT CARD PROGRAM**

Our Gift Card Program is another easy way to help raise  
money for our church missions and programs.

There will be specific dates for you to order as a group,  
or you can reload existing gift cards right on line at  
[shopwithscrip.com](http://shopwithscrip.com)

You get your gift cards at full value and a percentage comes  
back to the church at no cost to you!

Questions, see Nancy Todd or Deana Tredeau!

### **AMAZONSMILE**

When purchasing through Amazon why  
not choose AMAZONSMILE!!

You can select a non-profit:  
(United Church of Christ, Congregational  
Burlington, MA)

When you make a purchase a % will be  
donated to the church at no cost to you!

**Another Win, Win for ALL!**

# SUNDAY SCHOOL

On December 29 Sunday School students donned their new chef's hats & provided a delectable coffee hour. On Baptism Sunday we performed science experiments washing away sins as Jesus did when he was baptized. The following week we celebrated MLK's birthday with our own party, making our own decorations & trying foods from different countries in the spirit of MLK's encouraging inclusiveness. We made Valentine cards for Valentine's Day to give to family & friends. The God group made mountain posters for the lessons of the Sermons on the Mount that will be displayed in Sunday School.

Program for 5<sup>th</sup> - 7<sup>th</sup> grades. Exploring our Faith, lead by Deb. Held **11:45 - 12:30**.

Program dates:

1/29/20 Walking in MLK's shoes. (Had to reschedule due to so many illnesses)

2/23 What is UCC all about?

3/22 Diversity

4/12 TBD

5/10 Prayer & Meditation



## INTERGENERATIONAL ACTIVITIES 2020 PLEASE NOTE DATE CHANGES

Sunday March 22 2-3PM: Pool Party at Billerica Boys & Girls Club.

This is a fun interactive event! Kids get the shallow end, room for adults to do short laps in the deep end. Please sign-up at coffee hour or call/text Deb at 857-373-9156. **We must have a final count by 3/19/20**



Saturday April 4-Sunday April 5: Sunday School Over Night 3<sup>rd</sup> - 7<sup>th</sup> grade (God group).

The kindergarten - 3<sup>rd</sup> grade can join us for dinner & the movie *The Lorax* presented by the Green Team.



Thursday April 16 Altitude Park. All Day 10:30 AM - 8 PM. Fund Raiser for UCC. Go to the

park any time that day, & let them know you're with the UCC fund raiser before paying. Each person pays their own way 15% of your payment benefits UCC. Make a plan with friends to go as a group that night. Fun & beneficial for church!

Sunday April 26 Hey Save the Earth by the Just Peace Players. Intergenerational Worship Service. Save the Earth shares true stories of people who are working to care for creation. It includes imaginary stories of birds and animals who want us to work with them to save the earth.



Saturday May 16 5:30 - 7:30 pm Jeopardy! A great uproarious time last year! Can the

Genius's defend their title? Will include a light supper. Just kids questions included. Hey kids: Amelia answered a clue no other team knew last year!



June 7 Day at Walden Pond. Enjoy a picnic lunch then: Walk the Pond, swim, or relax in a beach chair. Last year the kids spent the entire afternoon in the water!

# In Our Thoughts & Prayers



Roberta Low's friend Doug  
 Anna Karwan's family with Health Issues  
 Joyce Carpenter's Nephew  
 Bill Beyer's sister Jane Moberg and friend Frank  
 Claire Simas and grandson  
 Mark Flecchia's mom Vivian  
 Kendra Griep's grandfather  
 Luella Brown  
 Carol & Ron Downing  
 Conrad Fong and his Dad  
 Alan Wright's friend Seth's Dad  
 Anne Stafford, her son Bill and grandson Zach  
 Brian Stahlinski hoping to come home from  
 South Korea very soon!  
 Woody & Betty Knowles and friend Janet Hurley  
 Jean Bastos  
 J. Beyers (Relative of Kate)

Dave Williamson  
 Rev. Elizabeth King  
 Jan Blandino  
 Bobbie Martino  
 Barbara Garland  
 Jessy McNeil's brother Mel and sister Grace  
 Henry Knopp  
 Dot Drinkwater  
 Ruth Reddig  
 Everett Langley's brother George  
 John Heald's sister Susan & Mom  
 Jim Mungillo  
 Tom's co-worker's 22 year old son  
 All our caregivers, military here and abroad  
 and our First Responders!

Our thoughts and prayers extended to Gail Ciano and her family on the recent passing of her Dad, Paul Moriarty. He will be missed by so many family and friends.

Condolences to Paul and Jane Raymond on the passing of Paul's Brother-in-law Bill. Keeping you all in our prayers.

Our sympathy to Elaine and Skip Glancy on the passing of Skip's brother-in-law Walter. Our thoughts are with you all.

Condolences to Chris Cahoon on the sudden passing of his Dad, Richard Leigh Cahoon. Keeping you, your family and friends in our thoughts and prayers.



- 3 Cindy Brown
- 7 Paul Raymond
- 12 Laura Nowell
- 14 Josie Ursino
- 15 Stephen Jacobs
- 17 Erika Downing
- 26 Laura Breau
- 26 Libby Samarjian
- 28 Alyssa Johnson







# MARCH 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 <b>LENT</b> 10:30a Communion School Noon-Youth Choir	2  <b>7:30p AA</b> 7:30p Trustees	3  7p Deacons	4 No True North Pastor Hours today 1p C4C  <b>7p Scouts</b> 7:15p Choir	5	6	7  <b>TURN YOUR CLOCKS AHEAD BEFORE YOU GO TO BED!</b>
8 <b>LENT</b> 10:30a Worship School-Love offering Noon-Youth Choir Noon-Missions Mtg	9  6:30p CE Mtg <b>7:30p AA</b>	10	11 8:30-10:30a True North Pastor Hrs 1p C4C  <b>4-9P FRIENDLY TOAST FUNDRAISER</b>  <b>7p Scouts</b> 7:15p Choir	12	13	14
15 <b>LENT</b> 10:30a Worship School Noon-Youth Choir	16  <b>7:30p AA</b>	17  <b>ST. PATRICK'S DAY!</b> <b>1p Jericho Walk</b>  7:15p PC Meeting	18 8:30-10:30a True North Pastor Hrs 1p C4C  <b>7p Scouts</b> 7:15p Choir	19	20  <b>HILLTOP DEADLINE</b>	21
22 <b>LENT</b> 10:30a Worship School Noon-Youth Choir Noon Meatless Luncheon by the Green Team <b>2pm Intergenerational Pool Party</b>	23  <b>7:30p AA</b>	24	25 8:30-10:30a True North Pastor Hrs  9:30a Hilltop Folding  1p C4C <b>7p Scouts</b> 7:15p Choir	26  Book Study is on Monday March 30th!	27	28  <b>5-9p Scout Event</b>
29 <b>LENT</b> 10:30a Worship School-Red Wagon Noon-Youth Choir	30 9-11a Book Study  <b>7:30p AA</b>  7-9p Book Study	31				

UCC  
6 Lexington Street  
Burlington, MA 01803  
Address Service Requested



# 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 with your payment to the church office by April 5.**

# DEACONS' SPECIAL MUSIC FUND EASTER DONATION

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Amount of Donation: \_\_\_\_\_ **Please make your check payable to UCC Burlington and write "Deacons' Special Music Fund" on the memo line.**

My donation is (please check one and fill out as appropriate):

\_\_\_ my/our Easter gift to the church's music ministry

\_\_\_ in honor of \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ in celebration of \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ in memory of \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ other (please specify): \_\_\_\_\_



**THANK YOU!**