

## HILLTOP HERALD APRIL 2020

Rev. Angela V. Wells-Bean  
Pastor

Sally Willard  
Moderator

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Dear Church Family,

This is hard. This is really hard. All of it. Maybe at the beginning, it didn't seem so bad. Hey, I can work from home. I get more time with the kids. I get to watch more Netflix. I'll be able to cook and bake more. I'll be able to take more walks. I can catch up on that crafting project. I can do that home improvement project that I have been putting off. I remember when our loved ones were sent away to war, if all I have to do is stay at home in order to save lives, I can do this. Those things might all still be true, but my guess is that by now those silver linings are starting to tarnish. Maybe the reality of it all is really starting to sink in. Maybe you know someone who has gotten sick. I recently read that New York City requested 85 refrigerated trucks in order to house the coming dead. That stopped me in my tracks. So, yea, this is really hard. And if you need to stay there and you aren't ready to hear the good news, then you can stop reading. But for those of you who are open to hearing a good word, listen to me, this is the era the church has been preparing for.

Maybe, for the first time in our lives, we'll be able to celebrate Easter in a real, tangible, embodied, not-just-metaphorical way. Every year at Easter we talk about life after death. We talk about butterflies, the image of the new life coming out of the cocoon. We talk about bunnies, they're really good at creating lots of new life. We talk about eggs, the new life of the chick soon to emerge from the egg. We witness flowers blooming after the dormant winter. We talk about resurrection. Christ rising from the dead. Life triumphing over death. Folks, I hope I am wrong, but if we listen to what the public health experts are telling us, then we are about to face a lot of death. I have started thinking through how we'll conduct virtual funerals, because the need probably will arise. Lives are being taken every day by COVID-19. But the foundation of our faith is our collective belief in life triumphing over death. We are Easter people and Christ's resurrection is the cornerstone of our faith. We will celebrate life after death. We will celebrate when this is over. We will celebrate when we're able to gather together in the sanctuary again, and I think our sacred space should be full of flowers! We will celebrate when we're able to touch each other again, and I will gladly hug anyone who wants a hug. We will celebrate when the stores and the gyms and the schools and the playgrounds and the restaurants are open again. Life will prevail. We will beat this nasty, insidious, horrific virus.

Maybe this year, for the first time, we will really understand what it means to celebrate Easter. I cannot wait for that day to come. Until then, stay home, and take care of yourself, so that we minimize death as much as possible. I am sending you so much love, support and care in these precarious times. Hold tight, beloved ones, life will triumph over death. And I cannot wait to celebrate with you when that day finally comes.

Love and Virtual Hugs,

*Rev. Angela Wells-Bean*

Rev. Angela Wells-Bean





**Palm Sunday April 5.** Join us on ZOOM livestream at 10:30am. A picture of the palms in the sanctuary will be on the bulletin cover for you to view. Palms will not be available to you this year due to the current COVID-19 situation. As is our tradition, we will burn the palms to be used for ashes next year on Ash Wednesday.

Since Palm Sunday also involves Communion, we ask you to join us for Communion via livestream. Before worship begins, you're invited to prepare a piece of bread and a small drink from your home that you can take with us during the service.



**Our Maundy Thursday Service on April 9th at 7:00pm** Join us on ZOOM livestream and we will partake in Communion the same way as Palm Sunday. Because it is a candlelight service, you're invited to have a candle near you during the service which we will all extinguish together at the end.



**Easter Sunday Sunrise Service on April 12th** will be ZOOM livestream at 6:30am. We will record this service , so if you miss it you can view it at a later time.



**Easter Festival Worship will be livestreamed at 10:30am.** We again ask you to join us with Communion during the service. Our flowers have been reduced since we cannot deliver to many of our folks. We do plan to adorn our sanctuary with a wonderful array of flowers once we are all welcome back to worship as a community.

## **CONNECTING TO ZOOM LIVESTREAM**

Our worship services, for the foreseeable future, are being live streamed through a program called Zoom, which you will have to download on your device. You can watch the service on your phone, tablet or computer, or you can listen to it by dialing in on a telephone.

To watch, go to this link on your device: <https://us04web.zoom.us/j/756975189>

To listen: Dial this number 929-205-6099 and enter this meeting ID: 756 975 189.

All worship bulletins will be emailed out (snail mail to some)  
and are also available on our website.

We are planning on recording the services and uploading them to YouTube,  
but this is still in process.

## **PASTOR ANGELA AVAILABLE FOR PASTORAL CARE**

If you are struggling during this time of social distancing, or if you just want someone to talk to, I am available for you. We can set up a time to talk via phone, FaceTime or Zoom, whichever you prefer.

Please do not isolate yourself if you are struggling.

You can email me or call me to schedule a time to talk,  
RevWells@UCCBurlington.org or 727-776-7892.

Love, Angela

### **FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE**

If you or your family experience financial struggles as a result of COVID-19, the church is here to help you. We have a Deacons Fund which can be used for emergency financial assistance. Please reach out to Pastor Angela or Deacons Chair, Deb Glancy [debglancy03@gmail.com](mailto:debglancy03@gmail.com) if you could use financial support. All requests are kept confidential.

### **CHURCH MEMBER SUPPORT**

If you are elderly or immunocompromised or don't feel comfortable leaving your home, we have a team of church members who can run errands for you, including doing your food shopping. If this would be helpful for you, please reach out to Bobbie in the church office, or Pastor Angela.

### **MEDICATION ASSISTANCE**

If you are concerned about how you're going to get your medications during this time of social distancing, please contact Cindy Phillips. She can assist you. She can be reached at: 781-552-1034.

### **PLEASE CONTINUE YOUR CHURCH PLEDGES**

The church is not insulated from the economic concerns regarding COVID-19. We will inevitably lose a lot of loose offerings because we won't be gathering for worship for so many weeks. That being said, the church still has fixed costs including utilities and salaries. Please continue your weekly or monthly pledges, if you're able. Checks can be mailed to the church. If you're able to make an extra contribution, that would be much appreciated. Thank you so much for helping to sustain our community during this time of uncertainty.

### **NEWS FROM THE CHURCH OFFICE**

The church office will be closed to the public, however you can call and leave a voice mail, it will be checked regularly. Also, the U.S. mail will be picked up on a regular basis.

If you cannot watch us on LIVESTREAM with ZOOM, I would be more than happy to send you a copy of the Sunday Bulletin for you to view and stay connected. Just let me know!

Sincerely,  
Bobbie

## MISSIONS NEWS!

- The Board of Missions paid out benevolences to the Pine Street Inn, Habitat for Humanity of Greater Lowell, Casa Myrna, and the UCC Disaster Relief Fund.
- Half of the Easter offering is made available for the Board of Missions to donate. This year, the Board will recommend to the Parish Council that this money go to People Helping People.
- Planning for a Missions Sunday service in the fall is underway!

### CRAFTING FOR A CAUSE

There are many sayings about idle hands, but I think this one is good for right now.

“Idle hands make fretful minds” by Shelly Shepard Gray.

How many of you feel that if you can keep active you feel less stressed. Many C4C members feel that way which was one reason to start the crafting group. While we are social distancing at home some of us knit or crochet from 1 to 3 on Wednesdays. Between all of us we are working on fingerless mittens, children’s hats some with animal heads on top, prayer shawls, children’s sweaters and cotton face masks. So if you want to knit, crochet something or sew masks and need a pattern we have a number of patterns for hats, fingerless mittens, scarves and masks we can e-mail to you. If you need yarn

Michaels does pick up delivery. Jessie McNeil has asked us to make masks for local hospitals. Nancy Todd is making some of them. We also have directions for making masks thanks to Jessie and Shirley Fong. Dave Ierardi works for a place that makes ionic films and they are working on a film that could protect workers from the Covid-19 virus. I am making a few masks with a place for a filter for Dave to use to try out the filter. If you aren’t a crafter then go for a walk, soak up signs of spring and vitamin D from the sun. My family refers to daffodils as Gods telephones. The daffodils are out. Get out and look for their bright yellow faces. Above all stay safe.

“And this too shall pass”  
attributed to an ancient Persian

### PEOPLE HELPING PEOPLE AND OUR RED WAGON!

Since we are not meeting here at church and not able to collect items for our Burlington Pantry, I reached out to see what we can do to help our neighbors! If you go to the grocery store think of getting a few items below for our Pantry. On your drive home, you could swing by and drop off at the Pantry, 1 St. Mark’s Road, Burlington Monday-Thursday 9:00AM-2:00PM , but later in the week they hope to have a separate donation center set up in the parking lot.

#### Here is a short list of items the pantry is asking for:

spaghetti sauce	cereal
instant oatmeal	vegetable oil
100% juice boxes	dish soap
toothpaste	shampoo
ready-to-eat chicken soup	peanut butter
jelly	2 lb bags of sugar
condiments: mustard, ketchup, mayo, salad dressing	



People are also welcome to donate money on their website, they are relying more than ever on being able to purchase items from the Greater Boston Food Bank and they need to rent a truck to go pick it up.

The website is: <https://peoplehelpingpeopleinc.org/>

Thank you for your support and stay healthy!

## DEACONS NEWS!

Much of the March 3rd meeting was devoted to reviewing Ash Wednesday and planning for Holy Week services. Since restrictions were placed on gathering size a week or so after the meeting, plans for April services will be revisited in a special Deacons meeting via Zoom on March 24th.

Attendance at the Ash Wednesday service seemed low at eleven people. The number will be compared with figures from previous years and consideration given to moving the service to 7:30, which might make it easier for people who work to attend. Another possibility is to

discontinue the service, as the distribution of ashes isn't common in UCC churches and is not mentioned in the Bible.

Pastor Angela related that, with the approval of True North's manager, she offered ashes to anyone interested during her usual Wednesday morning hours there, and 25-30 non-church members chose to receive them.

Memorial funds were donated in honor of Fay Fong, Paul Moriarty (Gail Ciano's father) and Ann Onthank.



### Easter Flowers

Thank you to those of you who have already ordered Easter Plants, we will not be taking any more orders at this time. Since we not holding worship in the sanctuary due to COVID-19, we cut back the order this year. We don't feel it would be appropriate to drop plants off to those with a compromised immune system, due to the current situation and social distancing. The plants delivered from Wilson Farm will be placed in the sanctuary and a picture of this will be displayed on our Easter Bulletin.

## MUSIC NOTES!

### Thank you, Special Musicians!

As most of you know, we have been worshipping online because of the coronavirus pandemic. We are very grateful to Debbie Claar, Sarah Clark, Mark Omobono, and Lee Tirrell, who will be singing hymns and solos from home during our services in April. Debbie will be our singer for Palm Sunday, Lee and Mark will be singing on Maundy Thursday, and Debbie and Sarah will be singing on Easter Sunday.

### Maundy Thursday music

Violinist Lisa Brooke was scheduled to play in person during our Maundy Thursday service on April 9 at 7pm. Since that service will be online, Lisa will be broadcasting her beautiful violin playing from home. Please follow the instructions that the church will send out to join us for worship that evening.

### Easter Sunday music

We had two trumpeters scheduled for play for us on Easter Sunday, April 12. Unfortunately, we won't be able to have worship in person, and it's nearly impossible to synchronize two musicians playing together live via Zoom, so our trumpeters have agreed to play for us on Welcome Back Sunday instead. This year that will fall on Sunday, September 13, 2020.

### Choir Rehearsals Suspended

As of this writing, there will be no choir rehearsals during the month of April. We will resume rehearsals when it is safe to do so.

### Keep in touch!

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

**Twitter:** @uccbmusic

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

Idea



When the Corona Virus finally exhausts itself and the danger is over, let's do something good for our community/country. Let's spend our vacation in the USA, eat in local restaurants, buy American products, buy local meats and veggies and support local businesses. These businesses are going to find it very difficult to get back on their feet and survive without our help. They are suffering badly now.

## SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

On March 15 we celebrated St. Patrick in our decorated Sunday School area with a party. We learned about St. Patrick, played themed games and of course had a snack. This was our last meeting as a group due to COVID-19 gathering restrictions.

An addition to Sunday School we are doing a program called: *Meet the Congregants*. During the Sunday School year, different people will come to the beginning of school to introduce themselves. It began with our Sunday School Assistants. Donna Ferro was the first presenter. She brought her laptop with pictures of her cats, family, wedding and co-workers. The kids loved it! Be ready, you may be asked to visit us!

Until further notice Miss Deb will tell the children's story during the Sunday Service on Zoom Livestream. Miss Chris challenged all the kids to come up with ideas to save our environment. Deb added to that challenge; students will complete tasks to earn coins to donate to a cause, to be determined by the Sunday School kids when we return to Sunday School. Puzzles, games and coloring sheets will be mailed out around April 1st. Directions will be included. Do not hesitate to call, text or email questions Miss Deb by Cell: 857-37-9156 or Email: Cedirector@burlingtonucc.org

Miss you all! It isn't an easy time, but you all are such strong kids!

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

March 22nd- *Diversity* - Cancelled will be rescheduled if possible

May 10- *Prayer & Meditation*-To be determined

### **INTERGENERATIONAL ACTIVITIES 2020** **ALL ACTIVITIES IN APRIL ARE CANCELLED!**



We will try to reschedule the pool party!



Saturday, May 16 from 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 A 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!

Please contact Deb Raymond if you have any questions, or would like to attend an event. Cell: 857-373-9156.

**WINE TASTING CLASS @ TOTAL WINE OF BURLINGTON**



We are sorry to announce that ***this event has been postponed*** due COVID-19

For those of you who purchased tickets, Bobbie will return your check!  
Looking forward to seeing everyone at a safer/later time!



**NEWS FROM THE MODERATOR!**

The March meeting of Parish Council was virtual. The meeting went well. Thanks to everyone who attended. Our community has been through many crises over the years. We know that it takes communities of people helping people to get through tough times. Please remember that we're here for you should you need someone to help or someone to talk to.

**TRUSTEES NEWS!**

The fence has arrived! The parsonage has a beautiful back yard fence. We used the "baby shower money" gifted from many of you, augmented by the Trustees budget. Angela and Andy covered almost half the cost. Now Soren and Stella have a safe yard to romp in!

**GIANT YARD SALE-SATURDAY, JUNE 20, 2020 (HOPEFULLY)**



A Giant Yard Sale we again shall hold  
When the air is safe and warmth unfolds.  
With time on hand perhaps we can start  
To look and see with what we can part.

Where we have doubles, others have none.  
Bring them out of the shadows and into the sun.  
Pretty dishes we used and no longer need  
Might make someone happy as they plant a new seed.

Prints that once graced the walls of our rooms.  
Replaced by photos of brides and grooms.  
Holiday treasures and home decor  
Might now to others mean so much more.

Puzzles we've done, books we've read,  
Letting them go, donating instead.  
Look in that closet and under that hat.  
Good grief, do I really still have that ?

However,  
If it warms your heart and makes you smile.  
Hold it close, real close, for a good long while.  
Its value is not how much it's worth.  
It's more like a flower that graces the earth.



Dave Ierardi's son Dano and partner Alisha  
Sarah Clark's mother-in-law Sandra  
Jessy McNeil's friend K'ween finishing chemo  
Joe Stoddard's mom Lillian  
Ken Baker  
Betty Knowles, Woody, friend Janet Hurley  
Roberta Low's friend Doug  
Anna Karwan and her family  
Joyce Carpenter's Nephew  
Bill Beyer's sister Jane Moberg, 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  
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, our First Responders  
and Urgent Care workers!

#### APRIL BIRTHDAY WISHES TO:

1 Alan Beck  
5 Martha Mary Ursino  
7 Brody Bonnell  
9 Kristen Costa  
10 Josephine Samarjian  
11 Janine Towle  
12 Barbara Leonard  
12 Luella Brown  
13 Tina Brierley  
13 Pam Walker  
13 Brad Bond



14 Josephine Ursino  
15 Donald Walker  
19 Janet Hooper  
21 Shirley Fong  
23 Jaime Cahoon  
24 Oksana Turgiss  
25 Allison Phillips  
28 Kristen Harder  
30 Mark Forbush

## ~WORSHIP SCHEUDLE~

### April 5 Palm Sunday Worship with Communion-Zoom Livestream at 10:30am

Pastor: Rev. Angela Wells-Bean  
Organist: Joe Stoddard, Jr.  
Lay Leader: Sarah Clark  
Music Leader: Debbie Claar  
Children's Time: Deb Raymond

### April 9 Maundy Thursday-Zoom Livestream at 7pm

Pastor: Rev. Angela Wells-Bean  
Organist: Joe Stoddard, Jr.  
Lay Leader: Chris Stahlinski  
Readers: Wynelle Scenna, Deana Tredeau, Mark Flecchia  
Debbie Claar, Dave Ierardi  
Music : Mark Omobono, Lee Tirrell, Lisa Brooke

### April 12 Easter Sunrise Service-Zoom Livestream at 6:30am

Pastor: Rev. Angela Wells-Bean  
Lay Leader: Deb Raymond  
Readers: Kiera and Liam Egan, Ally and Peter Wisniewski  
Music : TBD

### April 12 Easter Sunday Service-Zoom Livestream at 10:30am

Pastor: Rev. Angela Wells-Bean  
Organist: Joe Stoddard, Jr.  
Lay Leader: **VOLUNTEER NEEDED**  
Music: Sara Clark and Debbie Claar  
Children's Time: Deb Raymond

### April 19 Worship-Zoom Livestream at 10:30am

Pastor: Rev. Angela Wells-Bean  
Organist: Joe Stoddard, Jr.  
Lay Leader: VOLUNTEER NEEDED  
Music: Mark Omobono  
Children's Time: Deb Raymond

### April 26 Worship-Zoom Livestream at 10:30am

Livestream worship at 10:30am

Pastor: Rev. Angela Wells-Bean  
Organist: Joe Stoddard, Jr.  
Lay Leader: VOLUNTEER NEEDED  
Music: Sarah Clark  
Children's Time: Deb Raymond

### May 2 Worship 10:30am To Be Determined

Pastor: Rev. Angela Wells-Bean  
Organist: Joe Stoddard, Jr.  
Lay Leader: VOLUNTEER NEEDED  
Music: TBD  
Children's Time: Deb Raymond

# April 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1  <b>7p Scouts Cancelled</b>	2	3	4  Sleepover Postponed
5   <b>PALM SUNDAY Worship LIVESTREAM At 10:30am</b>	6  <b>7:30p AA-TBD</b>  7:30p Trustees Meeting TBD	7  7p Deacons LIVESTREAM	8  <b>7p Scouts cancelled</b>	9   Maundy Thursday  LIVESTREAM 7pm	10   <b>GOOD FRIDAY</b> Quiet Meditation At home	11
12   <b>EASTER SUNDAY SUNRISE LIVESTREAM AT 6:30AM WORSHIP LIVESTREAM AT 10:30AM</b>	13  6:30p CE Meeting TBD  <b>7:30p AA-TBD</b>	14	15  <b>7p Scouts TBD</b>	16  Altitude Park Fundraiser Postponed!	17	18
19 10:30a Worship LIVESTREAM	20 <b>PATRIOTS DAY</b>  <b>7:30p AA-TBD</b>	21  7:15p PC Mtg LIVESTREAM	22  <b>7p Scouts TBD</b>	23	24  <b>MAY HILLTOP ARTICLE DEADLINE</b>	25
26 10:30a Worship LIVESTREAM	27  <b>7:30p AA-TBD</b>	28	29 Hilltop Mailing  <b>7p Scouts TBD</b>	30		

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**APRIL 2020**