

FEBRUARY 2024 HILLTOP HERALD

Rev. Andrew Harris
Pastor

Chris Stahlinski
Moderator

291st

Annual Meeting Warrant

Sunday, February 4, 2024

Snow Date, February 11, 2014

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- Article 1 To approve the minutes of the 290th Annual Meeting held in 2023.
- Article 2 To approve the minutes from the special congregation meetings held on June 18, 2023, to approve the buyout of the solar panel lease from Revision, and on June 25, 2023, to offer the call of the settled pastor to Rev. Andrew Harris.
- Article 3 To accept the 2023 Annual Reports of the Church Officers, Boards and Committees.
- Article 4 To consider and vote upon the slate of Church Officers, Boards and Committees as presented by the Nominating Committee.
- Article 5 To consider and vote upon the 2024 Operating Budget as presented by the Board of Finance & Stewardship and recommended by the Parish Council.
- Article 6 To consider and vote upon empowering the Parish Council to spend up to \$10,000.00 from the Endowment Fund in case of an emergency.
- Article 7 To hear any other business that may legally come before the Congregation.
- Article 8 To hear and consider remarks for the good of the Parish.



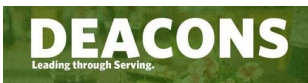
**ANNUAL MEETING AND LUNCHEON
FEBRUARY 4, (SNOWDATE FEBRUARY 11)**



Join us immediately after worship for our Annual Meeting/Luncheon.
Join us in Sewall Hall for light lunch. Return to the sanctuary (so those on Zoom can be in attendance) as we vote on issued important to our church. Following the meeting join us in Sewall Hall for cookies and refreshments. All are encouraged to join us!

PARENTAL LEAVE

Pastor Andrew Harris will return from parental leave the beginning of February.
If you have a pastoral emergency, please leave a message on the church voicemail (781-272-4547) and we will contact Rev. Trini Portillo, the covering pastor.



The meeting was relatively short, as review of Christmas Eve services and finalizing plans for Ash Wednesday were deferred until Andrew's return from parental leave.

Some of the Deacons' budget is earmarked for online worship needs, and a new camera, monitor and microphones were purchased to improve the experience of those worshipping from home.

Lay leader guidelines were revised again and should be available in the spring. These will help new and experienced lay leaders be consistent for services.

In an effort to help people sign up to assist with worship and coffee hour, sign up sheets will be available at coffee hour for those willing to help out. Please consider doing so; many of the tasks are easy, there's guidance for people who haven't done them recently or at all, and it would mean a lot to those perform these necessary duties week after week.

Many thanks to those who have helped prepare and accomplish worship services in January, especially Chris Stahlinski, John Getsinger and Bobbie Killilea, who has worked behind the scenes to make sure all the service components are covered and get into the bulletin in time.

Called to Care continues to do a wonderful job calling, visiting, and sending cards to people for whom it is difficult to leave home and also bringing meals to people who are struggling with physical challenges.

MISSIONS UPDATE!

RED WAGON

On the last Sunday of the month we ask folks to bring in items needed at the Burlington Pantry. On February 25 please bring to worship what you can from the following list:

- Coffee, Tea, Cocoa
- Kids Snacks
- Jelly
- Cooking Oil
- Pasta Sauce
- Toilet Paper-Tissues-Baby Wipes



You can always drop off donations at their location: 21 Murray Way, Burlington.

MISSIONS FINANCES FOR 2023

Balance Forward plus Pledged Income	\$18891.16
Disbursements	\$6480.00
Benevolences (21).	\$8400.00
Special Offerings	\$7097.98
Total Missions \$\$ Outreach for 2023	\$21977.98
Balance Forward	\$4011.16



CRAFTING FOR A CAUSE

During this cold winter we will continue to have hybrid meetings. We are making blankets for the Project Linus. We knit strips and sew them together for either 36" x 36" blankets or 40" x60" blankets. We hope to finish 6 blankets before summer. You are welcome to join us every Thursday at 1PM.

BOARD OF MISSIONS

We did not have a meeting in January. In February we will decide which organizations we will be supporting this year. The Board of Missions would like to thank you for your generous support of the Church through your Christmas offerings. As of January, 2024 this offering was over \$8,000. This will be used to support the work of the Church. The first special offering of 2024 will be in February and it will be the One Great Hour of Sharing offering. OGHS website states "One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS) special mission offering of the United Church of Christ involves you in disaster, refugee/immigration, and development ministries throughout the world. When a disaster strikes or people are displaced or made refugees by violence or extreme poverty, you are part of the immediate response and of the long-term recovery."

SUNDAY SCHOOL

On January 14th we had our First “Second Sunday Speaker Series”. This is for our 5th-High School kids.



Jen from the Robbins House spoke to us about Ellen Garrison, a civil rights activist before Rosa Parks. She had a large impact on moving from slavery to full acceptance of the African American Community. Thank you Jen & to all that attended.

Jesus group decorated King cakes



NURSERY CARE

Care is provided by 2 people for newborns – 4 years old.

**CE is urgently looking for a nursery attendant Sundays 10 am-12pm.
This can be every Sunday or a job share.**

EVENTS IN JANUARY 2024

Sunday 1/28/24 Sunday School parent meeting after church

Brainstorming & discussion with parents for Sunday School/Youth programming, especially around giving back to the community ideas. Childcare will be provided for kids nursery - 4th grade.

Wednesday 1/31/24 4:30 -7 PM Community dinner at Presbyterian Church

Youth 5th – 9th, with backup from CE, will setup, provide dinner and clean up. The dinner provided will be a waffles and Canadian bacon dinner celebrating Fat Tuesday. Cookies will be dessert. Cookies will be donated by UCC congregants. Our volunteers met at Presbyterian church at 4:30 pm. And stayed until cleanup at 7PM. Thank you to those who donated cookies.

Continued.....

ONGOING EVENTS

Second Sunday Speaker Series for 5th – High School Youth

These will be held during Sunday School from 10:45 – 11:30am. Each 2nd Sunday of the month a speaker will be at Sunday School to impart knowledge to the group, for instance: social issues, history, church policy etc.

Sunday 2/11/24 How does our church work & can I be part of it?

-Kari Lynch for the Deacons

Sunday 3/10/24 How can I live Jesus's commandment to love my neighbor as myself?

-Julie Lewis from People Helping People

EVENTS MARCH - MAY

Saturday March 16 11 AM Inter-Church Lent Event to Assemble Easter Baskets

Where: UCC Sewall Hall

What: UCC Burlington will host this event for kids of all ages to assemble 100 Easter Baskets for underserved kids in Burlington. The baskets will be distributed by People Helping People. People Helping People will provide the contents for the baskets and distribute the baskets. UCC CE Burlington will host this event and provide juice and snacks for kids. Invitation extended to: Presbyterian Burlington, UCC Bedford, and UU Lexington will also be invited.

Sunday March 24 at noon - Palm Sunday Procession

CE is proposing a Palm Sunday procession from St. Mark's church to Simonds Park/UCC. We are hoping to have a donkey lead the way on the .7 mile walk. St. Mark's church is on board with the proposal. Deb Raymond and Sally Willard will present proposal to the Board of Selectman on February 12th for approval. This puts churches out in the community and will be fun! Stay tuned for more information.

May 5/10-11/2024 CityReach Mission Program in Boston for 8th grade thru college

CityReach is an overnight urban outreach program begun in March 1996 for youth (with accompanying adults), young adults, and college students from churches of any denomination. The program gives these young people the opportunity to learn firsthand about homelessness from people who have experienced it. During the 20-hour session, participants join CityReach staff in street ministry and offer hospitality, food and clothing. This is followed by times of sharing and reflection.

Parents received an email on this program. If you did not receive the letter, please contact Deb C: 857-373-9156.



JOYS AND CONCERNS

Deana Tredeau's niece Amber Watkins
 Brian Gionet's Dad
 Claire Simas and daughter Marianne
 Roberta Low
 Debbie Clair
 Susan Eby
 Christa Brown
 Rebecca Sobolewski's sister, Holly
 Sheila Vitali
 Shirley Garside's daughter Lynn
 Bobbie Killilea's Friend John Ford
 Jessy McNeil's sister Grace
 Elaine Glancy's friend Rita,
 sister-in-law Irene
 Jim Killilea, Tom's brother
 Laura Nowell's cousin Nigel and friend Mary
 Skip Glancy's sister Dorothy

Joyce Carpenter's niece Cindy, brother Bob
 Marilyn Langley's brother Bill
 Lee Tirrell
 Kelly Sievert
 Beth Hatcher
 Bill Hitchcock
 Jan Blandino's grandson Toby, her
 Daughter Brenda and Son-in-law Rick
 Barbara Moran
 Ginger Mungillo's daughter Cindy
 And Ginger's son Jim
 Jean Bastos
 Barbara Garland

 Our Nation, Mother Earth
 Israel and Gaza
 So much Violence worldwide!

CONDOLENCES

Our sympathy to friends of Beth Hatcher on her recent and sudden passing.

Our heartfelt sympathy to Lucy Damiani and family and friends on the passing of her husband, Rollie. He will be missed by many.



FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

1	Craig Baker	13	Amy Todd
1	Ted Brierley	14	Karin Keyser
2	Gordon Brown	15	Elaine Carpenter
5	Mark Flecchia	16	Virginia Mungillo
7	Karen Beck	19	Donna Flecchia
7	Kellsee Lynch	22	Robert Knudsen
7	Chris Cahoon	24	Julia Lynch
10	Kelly Forbush	27	Lynn Tirrell
10	Sue Staten-Kassirer	27	Sharon McDonough
11	Sebastian Griep		
11	Ally Mazzarella		

WORSHIP PARTICIPATION

February 4 Communion

Annual Meeting/Lunch

Communion Prep: Marge Zamanian
Pastor: Rev. Andrew Harris
Organist: Brian Gionet
Lay Leader: Chris Stahlinski
Head Usher: Dave McNeil
Usher: Forrest Knowles
Greeter: Sally Willard
Collector: Joan Zink
Flowers: Aline Beck
Nursery: Jan McSheffrey
Sunday School: Deb Raymond
Donna Ferro
Coffee Host: Deb Glancy
Bakers: Deb Glancy
Potluck: Congregation

February 18 Worship-Lent

Pastor: Rev. Andrew Harris
Organist: Brian Gionet
Lay Leader:
Head Usher: Dave McNeil
Usher: Dave Leonard
Greeter: Chris Stahlinski
Collector: Marge Zamanian
Flowers:
Nursery:
Sunday School: Deb Raymond
Donna Ferro
Coffee Host: Jan McSheffrey
Baker:

February 11 Worship/Love Offering

Pastor: Rev. Andrew Harris
Organist: Brian Gionet
Lay Leader: Sally Willard
Head Usher: Deb Glancy
Usher:
Greeter: Jan McSheffrey
Collector: Dick Butler
Flowers: Jan Costa
Nursery:
Sunday School: Deb Raymond
Donna Ferro
Coffee Host: Chris Stahlinski
Baker: Chris Stahlinski

February 25 Worship-Lent

Pastor: Rev. Andrew Harris
Organist: Brian Gionet
Lay Leader:
Head Usher: Dick Butler
Usher: Karen Butler
Greeter:
Collector: Everett Langley
Flowers:
Nursery:
Sunday School: Deb Raymond
Donna Ferro
Coffee Host:
Baker: Karen Butler

February 14 Ash Wednesday Service

Pastor:
Organist:
Lay Leader:
Head Usher:
Greeter:

February 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 1P C4C 6:30p Scouts	2	3
4 10:30a Communion Noon Annual Meeting/ Lunch	5 6:30p AA 7p Trustees	6	7 7:15p Choir	8 1p C4C 6:30p Scouts	9	10
11 10:30a Worship Love Offering Speaker Series for Sunday School	12 6:30p AA	13	14  Valentine's Day <u>ASH WEDNESDAY</u>  10-noon Ashes to-go at UCC 2-4p Ashes at True North 7pm Ash Wednesday Worship Service	15 1p C4C Walk the Labyrinth  6:30p Scouts 8p Pub Theology At Common Craft	16 Walk the Labyrinth 	17 10-2p Leadership Retreat
18 LENT 10:30a Worship	19 HOLIDAY Office Closed 6:30p AA	20 March Hilltop Articles DUE	21 7:15p Choir	22 1p C4C 6:30p Scouts	23	24
25 LENT 10:30am Worship Red Wagon	26 6:30p AA	27	28 7:15p Choir	29 1p C4C 6:30p Scouts		

UCC Congregational
6 Lexington Street
Burlington, MA 01803
Address Service Requested

TO:

