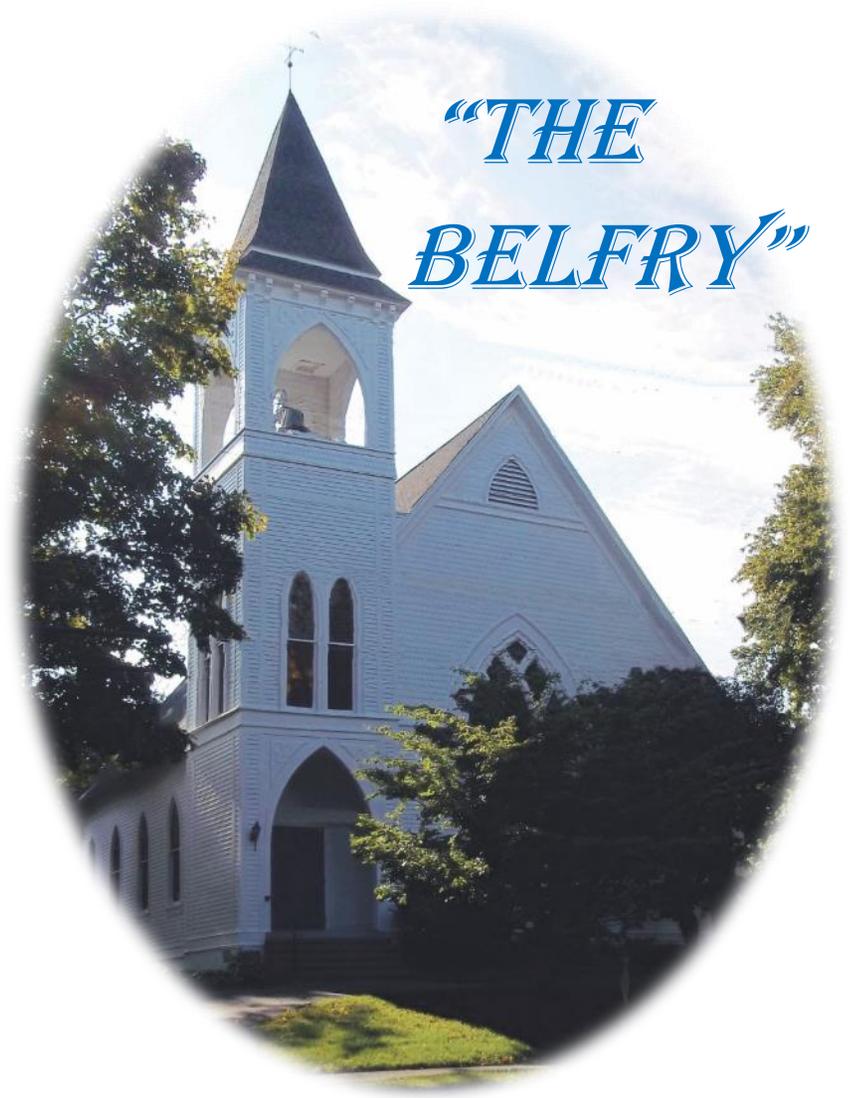


February
2019



HUNTINGTON CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
19 CHURCH STREET
SHELTON, CONNECTICUT 06484
203-929-1223

website: huntingtonucc.org email: hcc@snet.net

The Rev. Lucille L. Fritz, Minister

James T. Bruni, Minister of Music

Kirsten E. Keith/Jenny McCarthy, Co-CE Superintendents

Karen S. Boroski, Editor/Office Manager

**CHURCH COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS
JANUARY 2019**

TRUSTEES: Heat went out in Nursery School. One Hour Heating was called & Gary Morrison came quickly. Bob Sember met with Emcor who did maintenance. All but one tree at Parsonage was cut down by city. Ed Z met with Tomas of R&L regarding roof leaks – he gave some good ideas on what Trustees can do to fix it. Tom Ryder joined Trustees.

DEACON: They prepared for Christmas and de-decorated on January 6.

NOMINATING: Judy handed out a revised copy of the new committees for the coming year. There is thinking of merging Missions and Stewardship and make Nursery a one person rep.

MISSIONS: Met January 3rd – no February meeting planned. March 1 - One Great Hour of Sharing collection. Eva Washenko will be new chair, but she and Holly will work together. Stewardship will take February Spooner House meal and Women's Fellowship will do April and October.

WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP: WF held annual meeting– it was well attended and program well received. Set aside many dates for coming year. Approved new Board and budget for 2019. Women's Sunday to be February 10 when new officers will be installed.

MINISTER: Will be new member's class February 3rd. Potentially have 4-5 new members lined up. Annual Bowl to Benefit will be March 2nd – a collection for a donation will be taken on February 24th after service.

MODERATOR: Thanked Andy for all of his assistance with the budget. Andy presented budget for review and acceptance by Council. Sue Lindley and Terri Johnston moved and seconded acceptance of budget. Motion carried. Ray Oppel, Rev. Lucille and Laura met prior to the meeting to discuss endowments. Budget Committee will form a committee to formulate a plan going forward and then present it to the congregation later this year. This year annual meeting must be a closed meeting for members only.

FROM OUR PASTOR...



Dear Folks,

Ah, the month of February: the scent of love is in the air with the celebration of Valentine's Day, not to mention the scent of chocolate and roses.

The thing is, though, Valentine's Day has turned unto a day to celebrate happy couple-hood. What if someone isn't part of a couple? Or, what if the couple isn't happy? Valentine's Day can be a pretty depressing day for a lot of people!

That was not the original purpose of the feast of St. Valentine. The day was to remember and commemorate a man who loved God and God's people so much that he was willing to die rather than denounce his faith. Truly this is not the stuff of chocolates, roses, and romantic dinners!

This February 14th, let's remember the greatest love of all, the love that God showed us in Jesus Christ. May we recommit ourselves to sharing that love with the world.

In Christ's love,
Rev. Lucille



~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~
*Rev. Lucille's prayer days will be on Thursdays,
February 21th, March 21th, and April 25th. Please let her know if
you have a prayer concern you would like her to lift-up.*

~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~



**THE 295th ANNUAL MEETING OF THE
HUNTINGTON CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, UCC
WILL BE HELD IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING
THE MORNING WORSHIP SERVICE
ON SUNDAY, JANUARY 20, 2019
FOR THE PURPOSE OF ELECTING OFFICERS,
ACCEPTING THE 2019 BUDGET,
AND ANY OTHER BUSINESS THAT PROPERLY COMES
BEFORE THE MEETING.**

CHILD CARE WILL BE PROVIDED

~~~~~  
**SNOWDATE: THE FOLLOWING SUNDAY,  
JANUARY 27, 2019**

**To HCCUCC Members:  
The Annual Report will be emailed to our members.  
Please print yours out & bring with you to the Annual Meeting.  
Thank you**

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***TO ALL OUTGOING  
COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS***

If you have a key to the church building(s), please pass it along to the incoming chairperson on that committee or turn it into the church office. Thank you for your cooperation.

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**A note from Women's Fellowship by Sue Lindley**

2019 will bring some wonderful changes to our Women's Fellowship organization and we hope you will plan to join us for all of our activities! First, we will have a new, very capable President, Denise Wilson. Denise brings a wealth of knowledge and great leadership skills. I am stepping down after many wonderful years, but happily passing the torch to Denise.

We will continue with our wonderful charity work, but we also host many great activities throughout the year and all ladies are invited to join in some or all of them. We hold our monthly Women's Fellowship Circle meetings on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of the month – a casual gathering – sometimes with a formal agenda, other times we work on upcoming projects, but as always, many hands make light work. Throughout the year we also host gatherings – open to the whole congregation. We have some great ideas already in the works for this year!

Our Quiet Hour during Lent is shaping up to be a fun and interesting discussion group and all members, male and female, are welcome to join us. Details will be forthcoming soon. Our Corned Beef and Cabbage dinner, chowder sales, summer tag sale and of course the Pumpkin and Holly Fair are on the schedule. We'll endeavor to keep everyone posted on what's going on, so plan to join in the fun!

Again, I just want to say “thank you” to the Women's Fellowship of allowing me the privilege of serving as their President for these past years. I look forward to being involved for many more years. Here's hoping you will consider joining us for some fun and fellowship! Cheers!!



**CHURCH WORLD SERVICE**

Church World Service Kits are small packages of supplies assembled by volunteers and shipped to families and communities in need around the world- especially in the aftermath of disasters such as Hurricane Florence and Hurricane Michael.

Hygiene Kits provide the difference between sickness and health for struggling families. School kits give children in impoverished communities and refugee camps the basic tools for learning.

Back in April 2018, we delivered to United Congregational Church in Bridgeport – 25 boxes filled with Hygiene kits and School kits that were picked up for delivery to our Church World Service depot in Maryland. Our donations include the following; 50 school kits, 50 health kits.

But the job did not start there. It began with our Women’s Fellowship Circles and our very generous church members and friends that made our mission project so successful.

As we begin another year, we are already preparing for our collection of supplies and we are in need of your help.

We will be collecting the following items to fill these kits during February and March until April 7<sup>th</sup>. Your gifts can be left in the CWS box or Women’s Fellowship box in our Fellowship Hall. All kits will be packed in April.

School Kits:

- ~ blunt scissors
- ~ Pencil sharpeners-hand held
- ~ 12 inch rulers
- ~ Large eraser
- ~ Box 24 crayons (only 24)
- ~ Spiral notebooks-70 sheets
- ~ New Pencils w/erasers

Hygiene Kits:

- ~ Combs (wide tooth only)
- ~ Bath size soap in wrapper
- ~ 3” Band-aids
- ~ Toothbrushes in original package
- ~ Nail clippers
- ~ Washcloths
- ~ Hand towels

Many thanks for your donations and continued support of this project. Please call Laura Salvio (203-925-0756) with any questions.



## HUNTINGTON CENTER NURSERY SCHOOL

Register now for the 2019/2020 school year

Huntington Center Nursery School is accepting registrations in December for the 2019-2020 school year for 3 & 4 yr. olds. We offer half day and extended day programs and additionally a before school program. If you are or know of someone who is interested in this wonderful program please contact our Director, Linda Rizzitelli at 203-929-7197 for more information. H.C.N.S. is open to the public.



**OUR SPECIAL VISITOR**



The Huntington Center Nursery School will be holding its annual Butter Braid fundraiser beginning in March. Items will be Braided Pastry & Otis Spunkmeyer Cookies. Order forms will be available after Sunday worship in Fellowship Hall in March. Watch future Belfry for more information.

Your support is always appreciated.

## **Credit Card Giving is available at HCCUCC**

We thank everyone who has supported **Huntington Congregational Church UCC** in 2018 with their time, talent and financial contributions. We look forward to continued support from all of our members in 2019. If you need a convenient way to make regular offerings, we encourage you to check out our electronic giving options. As the pace of life speeds up, you may find electronic giving an easy and convenient way to make your contributions to HCCUCC. Visit [www.huntingtonucc.org](http://www.huntingtonucc.org) or contact the church office for more information.

**Reminder:** Please submit your UCC/FEA dues of \$12 per church member by March 1 to offset the cost for 2019. This can be done by mail or through our website on-line giving. Thank you for your continued support and faithfulness.

## **NEW MEMBER'S CLASS**

Interested in being a member of HCCUCC? New Member's Class will be Sunday, February 3 following worship in the library.



The 31<sup>th</sup> Annual Bowl-2-Benefit The Umbrella Center for Domestic Violence Services will be held on Sunday, March 3<sup>rd</sup> at Bowlero, 1717 Boston Post Road, Milford.

If you wish to form team, please contact Rev. Lucille. **An offering for the event will be taken on Sunday, February 24<sup>th</sup>.**

## **LOOKING AHEAD: ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE MARCH 6**

**The 2019 Ash Wednesday Service will be held on February 14, 7 P.M. at the First United Methodist Church of Shelton. All are invited!**



## **FAITH PROMISE CARDS**

**It's not too late to submit your 2019 Faith Promise (Pledge) Card.** Cards can be found on the cabinet in the alcove. If you have not returned your pledge card, please do so as soon as possible. Thank you for your generosity!

## **LENTEN QUIET HOUR**

All women of the church are invited, at no cost, to attend our annual six-week Quiet Hour sessions, beginning on **Ash Wednesday, March 6<sup>th</sup> at 10 a.m.** in the church library. We will be studying the book, **"WHEN GOD WINKS: HOW THE POWER OF COINCIDENCE GUIDES YOUR LIFE"** by Squire Rushnell. The discussion will be led by Rev. Lucille. Watch for the sign-up sheet in the alcove or call the church office (203-929-1223).

## MISSIONS



I cannot tell you how much all your gifts, cards, and well-wishes during this Christmas season mean to me!  
Thank you from the bottom of my heart!

- Rev. Lucille



...the family of Don McEwen,  
father-in-law of Julie Markarian,  
who passed away December 17, 2018.

...the family of Roger Friend who entered into rest  
January 2, 2019.

*Our thoughts and prayers are with the family  
during this time of sorrow.*

*Thank  
You*

*To all for the Christmas Gift presented to me on December  
23<sup>rd</sup>. A special thank you to those who gave me a personal  
gift.*

*Also, a thank you to our Moderator, Laura Salvia  
and Rev. Lucille for their compassion and patience this  
past year and to everyone for their prayers. You are all in  
my heart.*

*I wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and Happy  
New Year!*

*Blessings, Karen*

## DID YOU KNOW?

Shirley Bleston was nice enough to share an article that appeared in a 1991 HCCUCC Belfry. It will hopefully bring a smile to your face and most importantly honor our "Wonder Woman", Karen! Enjoy!

FIRE: What to do ..... from a secretarial workshop held in the Detroit area.

During a recent ecumenical gathering, a secretary rushed in shouting "The building is on fire!"

The METHODISTS gathered in the corner and prayed.

The BAPTISTS cried, "Where is the water?"

The QUAKERS quietly praised God for the blessing that fire brings.

The LUTHERANS posted a notice on the door declaring that fire was evil.

The ROMAN CATHOLICS passed a collection plate to cover the damage.

The JEWS posted symbols on the doors hoping that the fire would pass.

The CONGREGATIONALISTS shouted "Every man for himself!"

The FUNDAMENTALISTS proclaimed, "It's the vengeance of God."

The CHRISTIAN SCIENTISTS concluded that there was not a fire.

The PRESBYTERIANS appointed a chairperson who was to appoint a committee to look into the matter and make a written report.

The EPISCOPALIANS formed a procession and marched out.

And the SECRETARY grabbed a fire extinguisher and put the fire out!

Amen!!!



*A special thank you to Andy Keith, our treasurer and recycle person. Each recycle night, Andy takes the bin down to the road for us. BUT, there are times he has to empty it first to break down the boxes. We ask any committee or person to break down their own boxes to save Andy time. Each one needs to take responsibility for their own cleanup.*

*Thank you,  
Trustees*



*Congratulations to Soren, III & Jennifer Ibsen on the birth of their son, Jack Benjamin. Jack was born December 29, 2018 and weighed 8 lbs., 10 oz., 21 inches long. He joins his big sister, Emma. His grandparents are Lynn & Soren, Jr .*

Prayer List

**Minister**

**Rev. Lucille L. Fritz**

*Minister of Music*  
James T. Bruni

*Director of Christian Education*  
Kirsten E. Keith

*Moderator*  
Laura Salvio

*Deacon Co-Chairs*  
Justine Connery/  
Gail Schoennagel

*Trustee Co-Chairs*  
Ed Zinsky

*Women's Fellowship*  
*President*  
Denise Wilson

*Huntington Center*  
*Nursery School*  
*Director/Teacher*  
Linda Rizzitelli

9:30 am  
*Sunday Worship/  
Sunday School  
& Child Care*

*Office Manager/  
Belfry Editor*  
Karen S. Boroski

|                           |                 |
|---------------------------|-----------------|
| Marion Fairbanks          | Gertrude Wilson |
| Barbara Grisgraber        | James Margolies |
| Bill Nicholas             | Arlene Wells    |
| Ruth Johnston             | Corey Glynn     |
| Danny Schmitt             | Bernita Savage  |
| Kathie Withenbury         | Rich Norko      |
| Renee                     | Vanessa         |
| Joan Risner               | Tom Symski      |
| Louise Franko             | C.K. Walls      |
| Dolores Vecchione         |                 |
| Vincent Vallillo & family |                 |
| James Flynn               | Dawn Chapman    |

*Birthday Greetings to the following who will celebrate during the month of February:*

- 4 Nicholas Verdicchio
- 6 Diane Wehger
- 7 Ginger Clarke, Jasmine Leung
- 8 Lucy McCarthy, Debbie Grisgraber
- 12 Barbara Henschel
- 15 Laura Salvio
- 16 Ken Tober
- 23 Joan Bloemen, Emma Boroski
- 24 Scarlett Taylor
- 27 Brad Wells



**Congratulations to the following couples who will celebrate wedding anniversaries in February:**

- 1 Holly & Gerry Fassbender
- 16 Rebecca & Nicholas Verdicchio
- 25 Barbara & Walter Henderson
- 27 Katrina & Noel Corcino



**CHURCH CANCELLATION:** When inclement weather occurs, these methods will be used: A mass email will be sent to members; Channel 8 – TV or on their website [www.wtnh.com](http://www.wtnh.com); Channel 3 – TV or on their website [www.wfsb.com](http://www.wfsb.com).

**The Belfry Article Deadline for the March 2019 issue is February 18<sup>th</sup>**

# February 2019

| SUNDAY                                                                                            | MONDAY                                                                                    | TUESDAY                                              | WEDNESDAY                   | THURSDAY                                                          | FRIDAY                                                                                                         | SATURDAY                                       |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------|
|                                                                                                   |                                                                                           |                                                      |                             |                                                                   | 1                                                                                                              | 2 8am- Yoga<br><br>12-4pm-Jill -FH & classroom |
| 3<br>9:30am- Holy Communion Worship/ Child Care<br>10:30am-New Member's Class                     | 4                                                                                         | 5<br>9am-CTWUCC--library<br><br>7pm-Trustees meeting | 6<br><br>Troop 101-FH       | 7<br><br>6pm-TOPS-library<br>7:15pm-Choir                         | 8<br><br>SPOONER HOUSE MEAL | 9<br><br>8am- Yoga                             |
| 10 <b>Women's Sunday</b><br><br>9:30am-Worship/ Sunday School/ Child Care<br>10:30am-Confirmation | 11<br><br>7pm-GS-library<br>7pm-WF Ex. Brd meeting - library                              | 12                                                   | 13<br><br>Troop 101-FH      | 14 <b>VALENTINE'S DAY</b><br><br>6pm-TOPS-library<br>7:15pm-Choir | 15                                                                                                             | 16<br><br>8am- Yoga                            |
| 17<br>9:30am-Worship/Child Care<br><b>10:30am-Council-library</b>                                 | 18<br> | 19                                                   | 20<br><br>6:30pm-WF potluck | 21 Rev's Prayer Day<br><br>6pm-TOPS-library<br>7:15pm-Choir       | 22                                                                                                             | 23<br><br>8am- Yoga                            |
| 24<br>9:30am- Worship/ Sunday School/Child Care<br>10:30am-Confirmation                           | 25                                                                                        | 26<br><br>7:15pm-Diaconate meeting                   | 27<br><br>Troop 101-FH      | 28<br><br>6pm-TOPS-library<br>7:15pm-Choir                        |                                                                                                                |                                                |

You may view the Belfry & Calendar on our website - [huntingtonucc.org](http://huntingtonucc.org)