

Huntington Congregational Church
United Church of Christ
19 Church Street
Shelton, Connecticut 06484-5802



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
Deb DeMuis, Organist
Jenny McCarthy, CE Superintendent
Karen S. Boroski, Editor/Office Manager

Minister
Rev. Lucille L. Fritz

Moderator
Susan Schmitt

Treasurer
Andy Keith

Superintendent
Jenny McCarthy

Deacon Co-Chairs
Sue Lindley/
Terri Johnston

Trustee Chairs
Gerry Fassbender

Women's Fellowship
President
Lynn Ibsen

9:30 am
Sunday Worship/
Sunday School

Office Manager/
Belfry Editor
Karen S. Boroski

Prayer List

James Margolies	Terry Mulherin
John Glenn	Renate Sigrist
Marge & Ed Brighindi	Sonja
Henriette Wilson	Ashley
Lori Wannagot	Tom Jensen
Gary Oppel	Charles
Ruth Johnston	Bernita

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

- 1 Terry Mulherin
- 3 Megan McCarthy
- 11 Deb Russell
- 13 Samantha Edelman
- 14 Bob Nagy
- 15 Simics—Angela, Julia, Richard, William, III
- 18 Sheri Dutkanicz
- 22 Merle Chase
- 23 Susan Roberts
- 25 Carolyn Hempel
- 27 Lucas Kellogg, Jayne Kneen



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

- 1 Lynn & Soren Ibsen
- 24 Linda & Rich Griswold



Our sympathies to the
Wells Family on the passing
of Nate Wells who was laid to rest on April 9th.

SUNDAY MAY 25TH: OUTDOOR WORSHIP

PARKING LOT NEAR THE KITCHEN DOOR
ON-SITE AND LIVE-STREAM



CHURCH WORLD SERVICE

Blanket Offering
Sunday, May 11, 2025

Our annual CWS Blanket offering will be on May 11th. This offering provides blankets, tents, and emergency supplies in the wake of disaster. The funds also provide material assistance, education training and small enterprise loans as part of sustainable development programs. You may give in person or online via our website: www.huntingtonucc.org. Please give generously and help those in need with a gift of hope.

Generosity Committee,
Holly Fassbender, Linda Harris, Laura Salvio
Denise Wilson, Eva Washenko

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Spring Cleanup-May 3<sup>rd</sup>

Now that the days have gotten warmer, it is time to make our church grounds beautiful again. To sign up to help on Saturday, May 3<sup>rd</sup> at 9:00 a.m., please add your name to the signup sheet in the alcove or email Linda Sember at [lindasember@gmail.com](mailto:lindasember@gmail.com). The Rain date is the following Saturday, May 10<sup>th</sup>. Don't forget to bring your tools.

**Wednesday Evening Devotions**

Wednesday Evening devotions will resume on April 23 through May 21 for a five-week survey of the Bible. All devotions will be 7 P.M. via ZOOM. The ZOOM link is in the "This Week" email.

*From Our Minister...*



Dear Folks,

The days after Easter are kind of like the days after Christmas...all the celebrating is done, and we go back to normal.

But really, how can we be "normal", unless normal is for us to bask in the light of the Risen Christ. And as Christians, isn't that what should be normal?

Jesus reminded us that we are God's beloved children with his words, actions, life, death, and resurrection. Our Risen Christ reminds us that:

Our sins are forgiven. Life is eternal.  
Love never dies.

Normal for us is to be children of God's light and love in this world so often dark and hateful. Our faith does not stop just because Easter is over. Easter is never over! Our faith permeates our whole lives at all times with strength, courage love, joy, and hope.

Alleluia! Christ is risen! Christ is risen, indeed!

In Christ's love,

Rev. Lucille

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**REV. LUCILLE'S PRAYER DAYS**

Rev. Lucille's prayer days are May 8<sup>th</sup>, June 12<sup>th</sup>, & July 10<sup>th</sup>. If you have joys and/or concerns, please let her know.

**MAY 2025  
Church Council  
Highlights**

Christian Ed – Jenny McCarthy: Sunday School will be meeting this coming Palm Sunday. Children will hand out the palms at the start of the service. They will be meeting again on April 27<sup>th</sup>. May 4<sup>th</sup> they will be meeting and celebrating Robert and Gertrude Wilson Sunday. Finally, they will meet Memorial Day weekend and June 8<sup>th</sup> will be the last class for this first half of the year.

Treasurer – Andy Keith: There will be an endowment committee meeting after tax season is over. Members are Ray Oppel, Royal Wells, Andy Keith, Sue Schmitt, Rev. Lucille Fritz, and Gerry Fassbender.

Generosity – will be represented by Holly Fassbender: They will be meeting April 24<sup>th</sup>.

Music Liaison – Sue Lindley: Choir to sing on Maundy Thursday, Easter Sunday and finally on May 11<sup>th</sup> - Mother's Day. Sacred Dancers will perform on Easter Sunday.

Nominating- Bob Sember: One person needed for Trustees and Diaconate.

Diaconate – Sue Lindley: They are preparing for Easter season including the Lord's Supper next Thursday.

Publicity – Rev. Lucille: The website is now accessible from her church computer and the Mevo is working again. She updated the website and FB today. She sent out a FB post about the sunrise service on Easter. She will put upcoming events on the Patch.

Treasurer – Andy Keith: Has the cash flow for the Trustee's projects.

Gerry Fassbender – Trustees: Updates on the Capital Campaign projects. We sustained some additional damage to one of the windows in the Belfry during one of the storms. The grounds cleanup will be May 3<sup>rd</sup> with a rain date of May 10<sup>th</sup>. The water fountain downstairs has been taken out of service due to its poor condition.

Women's Fellowship – Lynn Ibsen: April 26 is the Shredding Event – need more men to help. They will be taking donations for Spooner House and will need help take the food to Spooner House. They will provide flowers for Mother's Day. June 7 is the tag sale with a rain date of June 14<sup>th</sup>. People can bring items and put them in Reuman House.

It's not too late to register for the  
**15<sup>th</sup> Annual  
Treasures, Talents and Tastes Auction**

Saturday, May 10<sup>th</sup>, 6:00 pm in Fellowship Hall

Various Auction types

- ❖ Live Auction
- ❖ Silent Auction
- ❖ Bag Auction



There is a \$10.00 per person registration fee. A portion of the registration fee will once again go to support Spooner House and each registrant will receive three tickets for use in the bag auction.

Registration forms are on the Auction table in the alcove and on our website: **huntingtonucc.org**

There's something for everyone:  
Delicious food (don't eat before you come)!  
Treasures, talents, and services to bid on.  
A fun way to support our church.

This has been a great event and we hope that you will attend and invite your friends to join you.

If you have any questions, please contact Bob or Linda Sember at 203 929-5853.

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Graduate Recognition Sunday – June 15th

We would like to hear from graduates of high school, vocational school, and colleges (both under-graduate and graduate). Grads will be recognized at the service on June 15th.

We will need the names for the Graduate Sunday bulletin and the summer issue of The Belfry. Please e-mail the office at hcc@snet.net or call 203.929.1223 by June 1st if you are/or know of a graduate from our church.

College Scholarships

The Huntington Congregational Church UCC is offering its church members college scholarships for those who are continuing their education in the fall (not restricted to high school seniors). Please e-mail the church office (hcc@snet.net) for an application form to be sent to you. Completed applications are due into the office by **Sunday, June 1st**. Scholarships will be handed out on Graduate Sunday, June 15th.

Bishop Property – Soren Ibsen: They signed the final paperwork on 20 Ripton Road mortgage. They have not yet gotten back the final paperwork. He reached out to 20 Ripton Road about the waterline. They have spoken to Aquarion and hope to have it completed this summer.

Rev. Lucille: Shared some items from The Visioning Committee. This Sunday is Palm Sunday and Maundy Thursday will be the Lord's Supper at 6:30 and Tenebrae at 7:45. Good Friday service at noon – both will be live-streamed. Easter Sunday is 6:00 a.m. at Jones Family Farm and then our service at 9:30 a.m.

Moderator – Sue Schmitt: She read a thank you letter from Lucille. The 300th anniversary booklet should be ready for Easter Sunday or soon thereafter.

GET THE WORD OUT!

People are saying we need to get the word out about our church. That's all our jobs! Please tell people what we are doing. Please invite people to our events and to worship on Sundays. Please engage on our social media. For Facebook, like and follow our HCCUCC page then like, share, and comment on our content. For YouTube, subscribe to our page and click the bell for notifications then like, share, and comment on our content. Please also visit our website. Every invite, every click helps get the word out about our church!

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### **Robert & Gertrude Wilson Sunday, May 4<sup>th</sup>**

**We honor the Wilsons and all dairy farmers on this special day!  
All are invited for ice cream after worship.**



## The Valley Food Bank at Spooner House

***The Valley Food Bank at Spooner House – Items Needed:*** shelf stable milk & powdered milk, pancake mix & syrup, peanut butter & jelly, canned fruit & applesauce, garbanzo & navy beans, canned tuna & chicken, oatmeal & other cereals, & pasta sauce. Please use the box in the Alcove for donations. The Blessing Box also needs to be stocked! Monetary donations are also welcome if you would not shop.

**REMINDER:** Our Spooner House Meal is now the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of each month. Questions--see Holly or Gerry Fassbender.  
Thank you!

## Annual Community SALE

Our annual tag sale is on for June 7, 9:00-2:00, with a rain date of June 14. Donations for the church table may be dropped off in Reuman House. Please help us by making sure that the items are clean and, if possible, priced (there will be price stickers available in the alcove). Items should be in decent condition.

We will also be looking for donations of baked goods. Cookies and breads sell best, but all donations are appreciated. If you are able to lend a hand on Friday (set-up) and/or Saturday, we are glad to have you!

Questions contact Denise Wilson 203 218-7553



On Thursday, April 10, Women's Fellowship members met to pack School and Health Kits for Church World Service. We were able to put together 60 School Kits and 70 Health Kits, thanks to the generous donations from our church family. A huge THANK YOU to those who sewed school bags and contributed the necessary items. We will be collecting school items again this spring/summer, so please look for that information from **Lois Ricker**.

Thank you, also, to those who supported our Shredding Event and Food Collection on Saturday, April 26. Spooner House was very appreciative for the food, and we will be sending a donation to Bridgeport Rescue Mission. If you volunteered or contributed in any way, THANK YOU!

We are gearing up for our last big event before the summer break, and that is the Annual Tag Sale. **Denise Wilson** is the person to contact with any questions. The bake table is quite a success, so please consider making cookies and other finger desserts to sell. **Terri Johnston** can give you some suggestions. If you are donating items for the Women's Fellowship table, they should be clean and in good condition. We request that you assist us by reasonably pricing your Items which can be placed in Reuman House now. Please contact **Lois Ricker** for further information.

As always, we thank you for supporting our local mission work. We are always gladly welcoming new members! Join us!

Lynn Ibsen – President

Women's Fellowship will once again be providing lovely flowers on Sunday, May 11, Mother's Day, for the women of our church. We are happy to honor you!

***We're getting an early start! Backpacks are needed for Women's Fellowship's Back-to-School drive for our Shelton schools.***



# MAY 2025



SUNDAY

MONDAY


TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

|                                                                                                                                                                                       |                                                                                                                                           |                                     |                                                                               |                                                      |                         |                                                                           |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                                                                                                                                                                                       |                                                                                                                                           |                                     |                                                                               | 1<br><br>6pm-TOPS                                    | 2                       | 3<br>7am-Early Risers-FH<br><br>9am- Spring Cleanup<br>for grounds        |
| 4 <b>HOLY COMMUNION</b><br>9:30 a.m. – Live on-line<br>Worship on Facebook<br><a href="https://www.facebook.com/HCCUCC/">https://www.facebook.com/HCCUCC/</a><br>Sunday school        | 5<br><br>7:15pm-WF Board<br>Meeting-library                                                                                               | 6<br><br>7pm-Trustees meeting       | 7<br>7am—Early Risers-FH<br><br>Troop 101<br>7pm-Devotions-zoom               | 8<br><b>Rev Lucille's Prayer Day</b><br><br>6pm-TOPS | 9<br><br>Auction Set-up | 10<br>7am—Early Risers-FH<br><br>AUCTION-9am-8pm<br>Troop 101-flower sale |
| 11 <i>Mother's Day</i><br>9:30 a.m. – on site & on-<br>line Worship on<br>Facebook<br><a href="https://www.facebook.com/HCCUCC/">https://www.facebook.com/HCCUCC/</a>                 | 12                                                                                                                                        | 13<br><br>7pm-Council meeting       | 14<br>7am—Early Risers-FH<br><br>7pm-Devotions zoom                           | 15<br><br>6pm-TOPS                                   | 16                      | 17<br>7am—Early Risers-FH                                                 |
| 18 Baptism<br>9:30 a.m. – on-site & on-<br>line Worship on<br>Facebook<br><a href="https://www.facebook.com/HCCUCC/">https://www.facebook.com/HCCUCC/</a>                             | 19                                                                                                                                        | 20<br><br><b>Spooner House Meal</b> | 21<br>7am—Early Risers-FH<br><br>Troop 101<br>7pm-Devotions zoom              | 22<br><br>6pm-TOPS                                   | 23                      | 24<br>7am—Early Risers-FH                                                 |
| 25<br>Outdoor worship<br>9:30 a.m. – on-site & on-<br>line Worship on<br>Facebook<br><a href="https://www.facebook.com/HCCUCC/">https://www.facebook.com/HCCUCC/</a><br>Sunday School | 26<br><br>OFFICE CLOSED<br><br><br><i>Memorial Day</i> | 27<br><br>Diaconate – 7pm           | 28<br>7am—Early Risers-FH<br><br>Troop 101<br>FEA Spring Mtg.-Zoom<br>-7 p.m. | 29<br><br>6pm-TOPS                                   | 30                      | 31                                                                        |