

First Congregational Church of Eliot
United Church of Christ
MONTHLY NEWSLETTER
THE ECHO |
APRIL 2018

PASTOR: REV. DR. BETH HOFFMAN

Inviting

Loving

Serving



We are an Easter
People!
Resurrection
Is Our Song!

COME SING ABOUT IT!

EASTER SUNDAY APRIL 1 10AM
FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF ELIOT, UCC

STEVE CANTY, GUITAR
BOB SINCLAIR, FLUTE/CLARINET
PETER MOTSON, PIANO
JOHN MARSHALL, DRUMS

BEN BALDWIN, SAXOPHONE
DUANE BATEMAN, OBOE
DANA TOBEY, ORGAN
LISA MARSHALL, DIRECTOR

ALONG WITH THE SENIOR CHOIR

FROM THE PASTOR

When Heidi Roberge turned 6 years old she had a morning movie party in the church fellowship hall with all of her school friends, complete with a donut cake!

However, she asked not for gifts for herself, but instead she asked for food for the hungry. And her request was answered in great abundance!

Only 6 years old but she already knows that people in her world are hungry.

And we know it too. All too well. We work hard to host and support End 68 Hours of Hunger programs and we collect food for the Footprints Food Pantry. We collect mission money and each year we bring in a whole lot of soup!

Yet, sometimes God shows us even another way to be in relationship with one another and Heidi's many bags of food were the inspiration.

Too often the very people we worship with every week are a little too hungry. Not a lot, just a little and a little bit would help a whole lot. And so we are going to start something we are calling the **FISHES AND LOAVES PROJECT**. We will soon have a cabinet in the church library and it will be stocked with some food basics to help stretch the grocery budget for WHOEVER NEEDS IT. No questions asked.

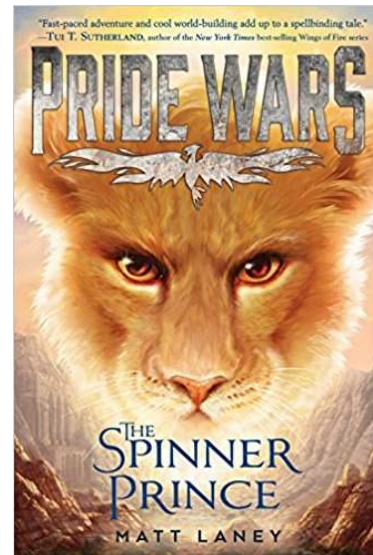
Of course we will need help keeping it filled so we will all be disciples of this ministry. Loraine Boyer, Laura Shontag and Jeffrey Pelkey are working with me to make this a reality. Want to help? Please come have a **FISHES and LOAVES** conversation with me! Let's make it **FISHES and LOVE!**

And let's make sure no one goes hungry for food or love! See you in church!

Pastor Beth

READING CLUB FOR KIDS

Come have pizza with **Pastor Beth** on **May 1st at 5:30** after having read the **new book THE SPINNER PRINCE** by **Matt Laney**. You can get the book at the bookstore or on Amazon. Read it or have it read to you in April. It is written at a Middle School level but is cool for High school and Elementary age alike.



"I am Leo, Prince of Singara, and I am about to die. . . Prince Leo is next in line for the throne of Singara, a land ruled by super-evolved felines. Like every thirteen-year-old, Leo must prove his worth by hunting a deadly beast called a slaycon. But killing a slaycon is the least of Leo's problems. The enemy beyond the Great Wall is rising up. Inside the wall, Singara is being torn apart by Leo's rebellious cousin. Worst of all, Leo is a Spinner, cursed with a dangerous and forbidden power he can't control. The future of Singara is in Leo's hands. Can he conceal his curse, claim the throne, and protect his realm? Or will he embrace his power and discover a far greater destiny for himself and for his world?" An unforgettable adventure, this first book in the Pride Wars series by debut author Matt Laney introduces a world where honor and duty, ferocity and faith, are tested by an unexpected hero.

SUNDAY SERVANTS

Fellowship Hour

- 1 Your Deacons
- 8 Sonya Quinn and Joan Pelkey
- 15 Jane Spinney and Sue Beattie
- 22 Laurie Troy and Family
- 29 Loraine Boyer and Diane Burbank

Ushers

- 1 Peggy Gray and Robin Wheeler
- 8 Rob and Sonya Quinn
- 15 Tyler and Lauren Small
- 22 Richard and Joan Donhauser
- 29 Linda Downey and Laurie Troy

Nursery

We will always have a caregiver available for our littlest ones in the fellowship Building and all ages are always invited to stay for full worship.

Church School Adventures

APRIL is CREATION and CREATOR with Joan Donhauser

Liturgist

- 1 Sonya Quinn
- 8 Dick Bogh
- 15 Liam Quinn
- 22 Loraine Boyer
- 29 George Slazer

Deacon of the Month

Linda Gove

Sanctuary Steward

Linda Gove



BIRTHDAYS

April 3	-	Nancy Hoyt
April 6	-	Rod Follum
April 7	-	Jessica Christian
April 8	-	Sally Hartford
April 10	-	John Downey
April 11	-	Carole Shirk
April 12	-	Norma Marshall
April 16	-	John Marshall
April 22	-	Marilyn Hamm-Bland
April 23	-	Chris Gray
April 24	-	Silas Bersin
April 28	-	Nancy Cultrera
April 30	-	Eleanor DeWildt

ANNIVERSARIES

April 14 - Dick and Dot Edson

BIRTHDAYS we have on record. Do you know someone who has a birthday this month? Please notify us!

LADIES CIRCLE

On Wednesday March 7th 12 ladies went to Norma's for lunch. On Wednesday April 4th Ladies Circle will meet at **12:30**. We will be bringing in paper products for Footprints. Also, if you have any items for the Mission School kits or the Health kits, you are asked to bring them at this time. Jane Spinney and Nancy Hundley will have refreshments. Nancy will have devotions.

THRIFT SHOP

We are now collecting donations for the Thrift Shop Opening. We do not want large items, baby cribs etc. We are looking for only clean salable items of clothing for everyone, kitchen articles, books, craft items, sewing and toys.

Please do not leave items outside,

OPENING DAY
Saturday April 21
9:00 – Noon.

Also there will be a **BAKE SALE** for the Mission and Ministry of the congregation.

HOPING TO HAVE A NEW DIRECTORY?

Plans are being made to update our church directory but we need your help? Do you have a new address, email or phone number? Please email mehoffman@metrocast.net with the information.

At this time we are planning on a no picture directory as our first level of offering. Then we hope to work on a second level that will have all our beautiful faces preserved.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Hey Friends! What a wonderful March we have had! The kids and their special teachers have been busy creating something amazing for our Easter Season. Come to church and check it out!

Big thank you to Laurie and Shawn Troy, Shelby Grondin- Bushe and Mark Hoffman for going above and beyond in connecting with our kids this past month!

Now we head into April and an adventure with creation! We are also looking forward to finding a time when we can go to the Trampoline Park!

Joan Donhauser will be our lead teacher and we will also celebrate our connection to the UCC Maine Conference Camp on the 15th! Calling all kids and get ready for s'mores!

Keep collecting the pennies! When we get to 4,000.00 Pastor Beth is going to kiss a farm animal. What one will it be?! I think it should be a goat!

Keep Learning, Church!- **Lydia Hoffman**

PASTOR BETH IS OUT OF THE OFFICE APRIL 8TH-13TH.

SHE CONTINUES HER STUDIES WITH THE FOURTH INSTALLMENT OF THE CLERGY LEADERSHIP PROGRAM. SHE WILL BE REACHABLE BY EMAIL AND TEXT, IN THE EVENING HOURS ONLY. IN CASE OF EMERGENCY CALL THE CHURCH OFFICE 439-1105 AND ASK TO BE PUT IN TOUCH WITH A DEACON.

PILGRIM LODGE CHURCH RETREAT

MAY 25-27 Sign up now with Pastor Beth

**SECOND CHRISTIAN
CONGREGATIONAL
CHURCH
AND
FIRST
CONGREGATIONAL
CHURCH OF ELIOT**

**WE GATHER
TOGETHER
AND GO TO
CAMP!**



**SHARED CHURCH
REREAT**

YOU SHOULD REALLY COME
THIS YEAR

**PILGRIM
LODGE**

**MAY 22-24
MEMORIAL DAY
WEEKEND**

STAY TUNED...

AND CHECK OUT
PILGRMLODGE.ORG



PILGRIM LODGE IS OPEN FOR SUMMER CAMP REGISTRATION

Families, youth, teens, adults, people of all ages and walks of life: there is a camp session for you!

- Find the session
(or sessions!)
that's best for you

MAY 25-27

at

<http://www.pilgrimlodge.org/camps/>

Reminder: Pastor Beth and her sister GG direct a really fun weekend camp called

EXPEDITION EVERYONE.

CLEANING OUR SPACES and PLACES

Have you noticed how amazingly clean and bright our physical spaces are? Big thanks to Loraine Boyer, Lisa Marshall, Joan Donhauser, Jan McMullen, Sally Hartford, Diane Burbank and all the other church mice that have been hard at work to make sure we sparkle inside and out! WOW!

We are unable to afford someone who could be hired to do all the tasks of a sexton and we are hopeful that the congregation will take on some of the duties while we decide what comes next. Is there something you could volunteer for every so often? Please reach out to Loraine Boyer as she has her cloth in hand and is shinning up the place with several other good souls.

**Spring
Plant
Sale**



**Just in time for
Mother's Day!**

**Plants, Garden items,
crafts and more!**

Saturday, May 12, 2018

8:00am to 1:00pm

**Bolt Hill Road,
Eliot, Maine**

**Sponsored by: the First Congregational
of Eliot, UCC**

**(All proceeds go to the ministries
of the church)**

For more info: 207-439-1105



April 2018

First Congregational Church of Eliot, UCC
www.eliotucc.org

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 EASTER 6am Sunrise Service at Kittery Point UCC 10am Family worship	2 7pm Craft Group	3	4 12:30am Ladies Circle 1-7pm Banjo Lessons	5 8am Exercise 4-7 Bluegrass	6 8am Exercise	7
8 Worship 10am Hall reserved 1-5pm	9 7pm Craft Group	10	11 11:30am Sr. Citizens 1-7pm Banjo Lessons	12 8am Exercise 11-3:30 Garden Club 4-7 Bluegrass	13 8am Exercise	14
15 Worship 10am Hall reserved noon to 5pm	16 ECHO ITEMS DUE 7pm Craft Group	17	18 1-7pm Banjo Lessons	19 8am Exercise 4-7 Bluegrass	20 8am Exercise	21 Thrift Shop Opening Day & Bake Sale 9-Noon Hall Reserved Noon to 5pm
22 Worship 10am Finance 11:30	23 7pm Craft Group	24	25 1-7pm Banjo Lessons	26 8am Exercise 4-7 Bluegrass	27 8am Exercise	28
29 Worship 10am C.E. 11:30	30 7pm Craft Group					

Have you ever deeply craved the feeling of genuine heartfelt connection with other women? Have you wondered where a place is that you can go and be yourself in your struggles and successes, trials, tribulations, and endeavors of parenthood, relationship, career, caregiving, spirituality, and all that is involved in the bucket carrying of your life? Come fill your bucket at the well of friendship and faith.



Women at the Well

Come join in the new women's ministry at First Congregational Church of Eliot

First Wednesday of the month at 6PM starting in May.

Listen, Lean and Learn.

Rest. Renew and Recharge.

A new opportunity to be in community and support with one another, in faith, fun and friendship

APRIL 2018
First Congregational Church of Eliot
United Church of Christ
1361 State Road
Eliot, Maine 03903



Rev. Dr. Beth Hoffman, Pastor
www.eliotucc.org
2087-439-1105
Worship Service: Sunday 10:00 a.m.

Spring Plant Sale



Just in time for Mother's Day!
Plants, Garden items, crafts and
more!

Date: Saturday, May 12, 2018

Hours: 8:00am to 1:00pm

Location: 266 Bolt Hill Road,
Eliot, Maine

*All proceeds go to the ministries
of the church*

For more info: 207-439-1105



OPENING DAY! Saturday, April 21
9am to noon! Bake Sale! Come
out and support your church!
Better yet.....clean out your items
and bring to the church.

(no large items; clean saleable items of
clothing for everyone, kitchen articles,
books, craft items, sewing and toys.)
Please leave items inside. Thank you!!!