

First Congregational Church
of Millbury, UCC
148 West Main Street
Millbury, MA 01527

Address Correction Requested

The Beacon
April



Worship and Church School: 10:00 a.m.
Church Phone: 508-865-9737
Email: Millbury1stChurch@gmail.com
Web: <http://millburyfirstchurch.com>



Resolve to
make a
difference
in someone's life!



To add an event, please
email
Millbury1stchurch@gmail.com

Remember to check us out
on Facebook. See all the
photos. It's a great way to
introduce your friends to our
Friendly Church on the Hill.

The Beacon

Deadline for May newsletter
is April 18th. The BEACON is
distributed by email or first
class mail. It can also be
downloaded from the church
website. Copies are available at
the back of the sanctuary.

April

2021



The Beacon

First Congregational Church of Millbury, United Church of Christ

Our Mission: To welcome and inspire ALL through faith, love,
and fellowship according to Christ's example.

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Dear Friends,

Easter is full of surprises. The first surprise was the astonishment of the women who came to Jesus' tomb, expecting to prepare his body for final burial. But, surprise! "He is not here," the angel tells them. "He is risen" (Matthew 28: 6). Even today, Easter brings surprises. One congregation got a big surprise on Easter just as the service was beginning. The Call to Worship had been pronounced. The choir started its processional, singing, "Up from the Grave He Arose" (Chalice Hymnal #224) as they marched in perfect step down the center aisle to the front of the church. The last woman in the choir was wearing shoes with very slender heels. Without a thought for her fancy heels, she marched toward the grating that covered that hot air register in the middle of the aisle.

Suddenly the heel of one shoe sank into the hole in the register grate. In a flash the woman realized her predicament. Not wishing to hold up the whole processional, without missing a step, she slipped her foot out of her shoe and continued marching down the aisle. There wasn't a hitch. The processional moved with clock-like precision. The first man after her spotted the situation and without losing a step, reached down and pulled up her shoe, but the entire grate came with it! Surprised, but still singing, the man kept on going down the aisle, holding in his hand the grate with the shoe attached. Everything still moved like clockwork.

Still in tune and still in step, the next man in line stepped into the open register and disappeared from sight. The service took on a special meaning that Sunday, for just as the choir ended with "Alleluia! Christ arose!" a voice was heard under the church shouting, "I hope all of you are out of the way 'cause I'm coming out now!" A little girl who was sitting closest to the aisle shouted down the register, "Come on out Jesus! We'll stay out of the way!"

It's a good thing everyone stayed out of the way as that choir member emerged from under the floor that morning. It must have made for a joyful, hilarious Easter service. At times it's good to stay out of the way. But as we hear those marvelous Easter gospel texts, we can see that Jesus isn't asking us to stay out of the way. Jesus wants to see us *on* the way. Jesus calls us to be on the way, moving out into the world, sharing the good news of God's death-defying love. He calls us to be on the way to our brothers and sisters in need, reaching out to them with compassion and resurrection hope. He calls us on the way to hastening the coming of God's Kingdom here on earth.

Easter Blessings,
Pastor Elva



- 5th Karen Kosiba
- 5th Donald Orrell
- 6th Sandye Hermans
- 8th David Sauer
- 9th Julia Fortin
- 11th Abigail Assad
- 11th Ryan O'Donnell
- 16th Dylan Enthoven
- 16th Donald Enthoven
- 21st Paul Fortin
- 28th Donna Elie
- 28th Susan Witter

Remember our shut-ins with a note or a card.....

Mr. Jay Stockwell
110 Hartness Road
Sutton, MA 01590

Chris Rudge
8 Carlstrom Lane
Millbury, Ma 01527

Bill Crandell
Care One at Millbury
312 Millbury Ave
Millbury, Ma 01527

Kathleen (Chase) Rozenas
102 Hayden Pond Road
Dudley, MA 01571

Beverly Stockwell
8 Colonial Drive Apt C
Millbury, MA 01527



Prayers & Concerns

- † Our Community
- † Our Country
- † Our World
- † All Military Men and Women
- † All First Responders
- † Our Church and our Ministry in Millbury and beyond
- † Ron Stead's sister in law Kathie Stead
- † All who are suffering from COVID 19 and their families
- † Health care workers and essential workers, providing care and support for those with COVID 19.
- † Christine Hamer's brother Bill, in a long term care facility in Pennsylvania
- † Kay Lachance, receiving care at Notre Dame Health Care, Worcester
- † The family of Roland Lachance, on his death on March 24 at Notre Dame Health Care.



Peace doesn't come from finding a lake with no storms. It comes from having Jesus in the boat.

John Ortberg - AZ Quotes

Drive-By Donations for Food Bank at Senior Center held at Millbury First Congregational Church

The Millbury First Congregational Church, at 148 West Main St. is inviting people to bring donations of Food, Personal Hygiene Items, Gorette's or CVS Gift Certificates to the church parking lot on Saturday, April 17th, from 11 am to 2 pm. All donations will be taken to the Millbury Senior Center. Suggested items include Canned Tomato Macaroni Meals, Fruit Juices, Canned Hash, Spam, Mimi Hot Dogs, Jelly or Jam, Ketchup, Mayo, Mustard, Relish, Salad Dressing, Pop Tarts, Cracker Snack Packs, and Paper Towels. A long row of tables will be set up so you can drive along side, and you can put your donation on the table, or stay in your car, pop your trunk or hatch back and we will remove your donation. Please Enter from West Main Street and Exit to Beach Street.

Please join us in celebrating the blessing of being able to help those I need.



Millbury Fire Dept Ladies Auxiliary Thanks Our Church for Donation

After a house fire in January, the Deacons made a donation to help families who had been displaced. We received this note from the Ladies Auxiliary:

Dear Rev. Pawle and Congregation,

Our group wishes to thank you for your generous donation to our organization. It is due to the kindhearted people such as yourself that we're able to assist the Fire Department and others at activations. This is a wonderful community. Again, thank you for your support.

Most Sincerely,
The Millbury Fire Dept. Ladies Auxiliary