

News from the Hill

The Congregational Church of Easton

April 2022



Minister

Rev. Amanda Ostrove

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Board of Deacons Chair

Nathalie Taranto

Church Secretary

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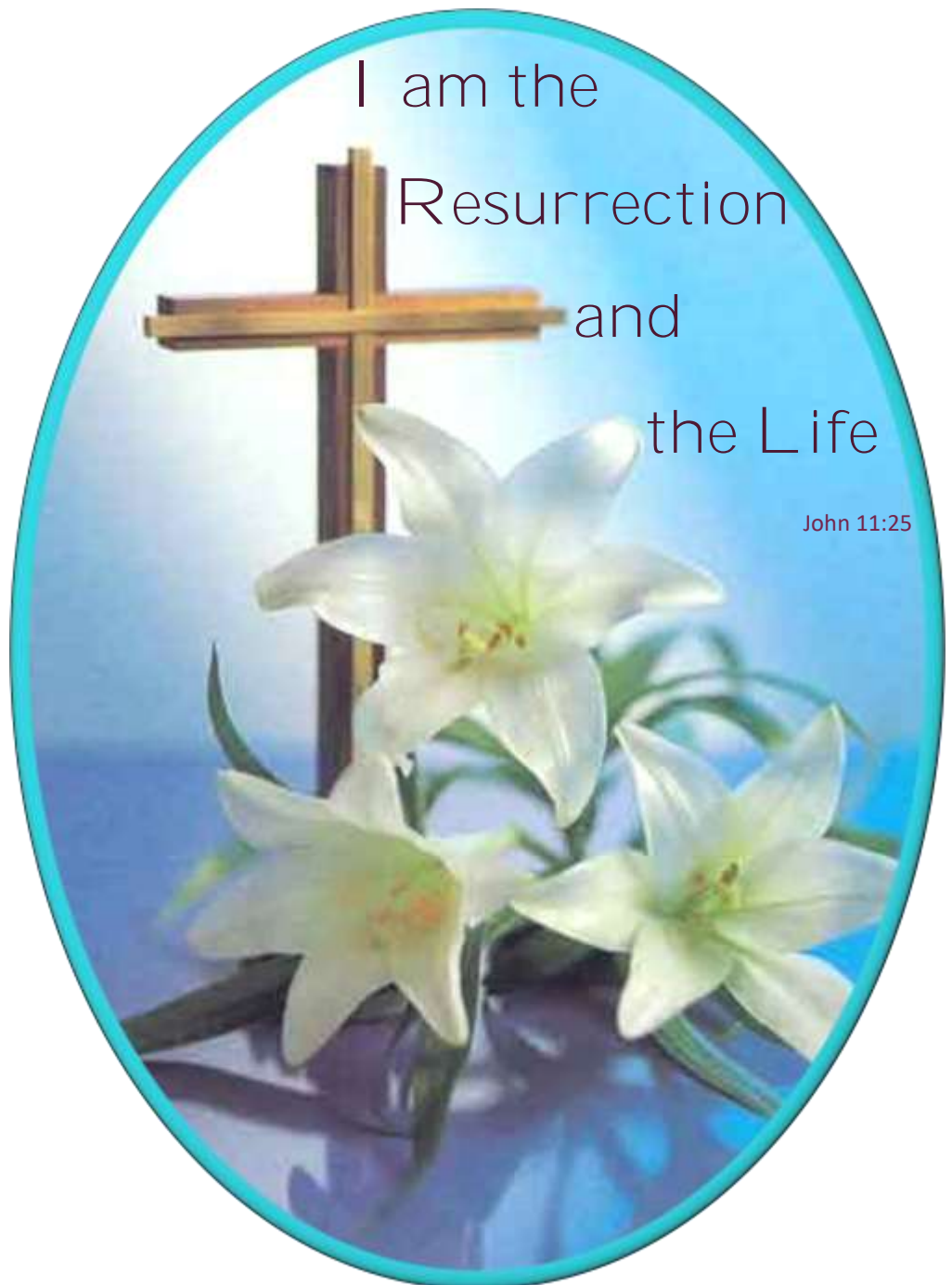
cchurch@gmail.com

Website

www.eastonchurch.org

Office Hours

Monday-Friday
9:30 am to 1:30 pm





“But he said to them, “Do not be alarmed; you are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has been raised; he is not here.”

Mark 16: 6

Easter is such a time of renewal that after the long winter I find myself yearning to embrace a new life. I find that after an emotional and tough Lenten season brought on by weeks of painful reflection, I am ready and energized in the work of Christ once more. This Easter season, there is so much to celebrate together. This is our first in-person Easter morning worship after the long years of isolation due to the pandemic. I urge all to come to a masks optional service. The church will be beautifully decorated with tulips and Easter lilies and it promises to be a wonderful time for family and community. We hope you will consider using holy week as a starting point of joining us for in person worship again in celebration of life and new life in Christ. Please read on to find information for our Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday Tenebrae, and Easter morning services. Also, please consider signing up for a half hour or hour long prayer watch session in the church sanctuary on Good Friday to observe the suffering and death of Jesus. During this time, you get the whole sanctuary to yourself where you read devotionals or books, pray, sing, or just sit in the silence listening for the word of God.

This is the perfect opportunity to embrace the new life being offered to each of us this Easter season. So if you are feeling disconnected, lonely, or just in need of something good this season. Then perhaps it is time to come back to in person church and rejoin our church family feeling the community of Christian fellowship. This Spring really does mark new beginnings. All of our typical Spring activities are underway. We will be having our annual trunk tag sale and are looking for vendors, we hope you will consider purchasing a spot. We will also be having in person Bible Study with a zoom option on the book of Genesis. We will also be continuing our guided meditation online for all who are interesting in trying something new.

I am also beginning plans for our first vacation bible school in a couple of years and I hope you will consider finding ways to support this ministry to the children and young families in the Easton area. Just as the angels reminded the disciples on Easter morning that Jesus was no longer there in the tomb, this Spring we too are reigniting our passion for the work of Christ and the presence of the Holy Spirit in our community activities.

Please mark your calendars for Saturday, June 11th at 11:00 AM for a very important service in the life our church, Rev. Amanda's installation service.



[Ukraine Relief](#)



Gifts made to UCC Ukraine Relief Fund will provide shelter, food, and other care to war refugees and internally displaced people. Uniting in prayer, action, and giving, we stand as a people of faith in love and compassion with the people of Ukraine and all who are affected, and with our global partners who are welcoming those driven from their homes. All donations will be deposited into the International Disasters fund designated for “Ukraine Relief.” **One can either use the link below or mail a check made payable to the United Church of Christ PO BOX 71957 Cleveland, OH 44194. Please be sure to note “Ukraine Relief Fund” on your check in the memo section.**

<https://www.ucc.org/global-h-o-p-e/ukraine-emergency-appeal/>



Deacons

All your secrets are out now thanks to the “**Interesting Facts Fellowship**” post-worship on the 13th of March. How many individuals and clues did you guess correctly? I guessed all of one correctly. I didn’t have a clue. What fun. Stay alert for the next Fun Fellowship event.

We are well into the Lenten Season, wherein the Deacons and Amanda offer the following schedule for personal preparation:

3/2/2022 - Lent began with Ash Wednesday

Deacon Lenten program/activity (7:00 PM)

Remote

3/30 – Last Bible based study & meditation lead by Amanda

4/10/2022 - Palm Sunday Worship with distribution of palms – In-person & remote

4/14/2022 - Maundy Thursday worship at 7:30 PM, in-person & remote

4/15/2022 - Good Friday meditation in sanctuary – 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM.

Call (203-261-2527) to schedule a one half hour (or more if you like) session for yourself

4/17/2022 - Easter Sunday Worship 10:00 AM in-person & remote

Some of you have asked why Amanda has not been installed as our pastor previously as she has been with us for several years. First, she served as a supply minister wherein she lead only the Sunday morning worship service. Next the congregation chose to become a “Turnaround Church.” As a member of the United Church of Christ denomination we were bound by a specific vocabulary designation wherein we did not qualify for “settle pastor” designation. The congregation then hired Amanda as our part time minister which brings us to the planned Installation.

Another questions some of you have asked is: “What the difference between “ordination” and “installation?” **Ordination** is the process by which individuals are consecrated, that is, set apart and elevated from the laity class to the clergy, who are thus then authorized (usually by the denominational hierarchy composed of other clergy) to perform various religious rites and ceremonies. Amanda was ordained early on in her career. **Installation** is a Christian liturgical act that formally inducts an incumbent into a particular place such as our church.

Looking ahead, **June 11th** has been tentatively set for **Amanda’s Instillation as our “Pastor.”** A pastor installation service is an important event for both the pastor and his or her congregation. It is meant to be a richly festive ceremony to **recognize the designation of pastor**; to acknowledge his or her responsibilities and duties, and to celebrate the end of a period and a new chapter in a congregations life. Mark you calendar to join and participate in the celebration.

The next Deacon’s meeting will be April 3rd, at 11:30 AM. All meeting minutes are available at the office.

Board members are: Daisy Colonnese, Jon Stock, Leon March, Sara Trup, Jim Bromer & Nathalie Taranto, Chair, (203/268/7441).





TAC

TAC has been diligently working on ways to help sustain the church. To this end, we have been working on the *Trunk Tag Sale*, and doing the market research necessary to begin using our facilities to bring more interest in rental space. We are also planning community forums once a quarter to allow for congregants to share their ideas with us on activities for the life of the church. Please see the registration form for the Trunk Tag Sale to purchase a spot in the church parking lot on the day of the event.

Community Trunk Tag Sale
Saturday, May 21, 2022 8 am - 12 pm
Rain Date June 4th

TAG SALE SPOT REGISTRATION

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Email address _____

Phone number(s) _____

Tag Sale Spots are \$35 for a 12' x 12' space. Cars may be parked inside the spot and you may put up tables, racks and displays within that area only.

Set up begins at 7:00

Tag Sale Closes at 12:00 p.m.

Please make checks payable to the Congregational Church of Easton.

**336 Westport Road, P.O. Box 37
Easton, CT 06612
Telephone: 203-261-2527
Email: CChurchEaston@gmail.com
Website: www.eastonchurch.org**

Signature _____ Amount \$ _____



Next Food Kitchen at Operation Hope for April 19th

Chicken—any style—or your specialty, Mac and Cheese, Vegetables, Salad, Fruits, and Desserts. For questions or to make monetary donations towards miscellaneous items, please contact the office. We could always use more volunteers to transport. Please note that we will be meeting at the church until 4:00 pm on Food Kitchen Tuesdays.

Food may be dropped off and put in the freezer or refrigerator ahead of time. Please mark that it is for the Soup Kitchen. Paper/pens/tape are next to the refrigerator.

On the day of the soup kitchen, food should be fully defrosted and delivered to the church hall by 3:00 pm. Volunteers are asked to arrive by 4 pm to help load cars.

Thanks to our cooks, bakers and shoppers for March: Daisy Colonnese, Susan Farmer, Barbara Trup, Connie Wing, Suzanne Herlihy, Suzanne Lovejoy, Caren Laskay, Cynthia Landry, Nathalie Taranto and Rev. Amanda

Thanks to our preppers, transporters and servers: Cynthia Landry, Jim Bromer, Rev. Amanda Ostrove

Merton House — We continue to collect sample or travel sized toiletries for Merton House. Please drop them off anytime and place in the basket at the entrance to the church hall.

Your donations are greatly appreciated.



A Special Thank you to those who donated Easter Baskets for Covenant to Care!

Facilities

Our new propane tank will be completed by the end of April bringing this project to a successful close!

We would also like to send out a Thank you to Pat for fixing the lights at the preschool and to Jim for painting the preschool bathroom.





Stewardship Campaign

Donations are essential to the life of our church and your donations have allowed for us to continue on our work in Christ extending our ministry from only about 4 years left 5 years ago to maintaining that 3-4 year goal each and every year. Our goal is to keep extending those years from year to year, so we can continue to make a difference in the lives of our parishioners, local community, and community at large.

We are very grateful and appreciative to each and every one of you for your continued generosity to our church community. We would not be where we are today without the various ways that you support the work that we do. To that end, the council, who are diligently working and planning for 2022. So please remember to send in your pledges to the church office as soon as is possible.

Many Blessings and Thanks,

Rev. Amanda Ostrove

Pastor



336 Westport
Road

THE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF EASTON PLEDGE CAMPAIGN

Keep For Your Records

Name _____

Pledge Year _____

Address _____

I plan to give \$ _____ ☐ Weekly ☐ Monthly ☐ Quarterly

Amount _____

for an annual total of \$ _____

I understand this commitment can be changed at any time by giving notice to the church office.

Frequency _____

☐ I would like Offering Envelopes.

☐ I would like to talk with someone about including the church in my will.

Signature _____ Date _____



Adult Bible Study

We continue our study of the book of Genesis beginning on *Wednesday, April 20th*. We will be focusing on the life story of Jacob Genesis 25:19-36:43. All are welcome to attend one or all of our sessions. No previous attendance necessary. This is a time to come and ask the questions you have always had and to learn to search for answers together. We will be meeting in the Bishop Room at 3:30 each Wednesday. There will be a zoom option please inform Rev. Amanda which way you intend to attend.

I look forward to see you there!



Rev. Amanda has been working on a VBS program to be held August 8-12 from 9 to 12:00. If you would like to volunteer please speak to Rev. Amanda. A list of needs will be assembled for the May Newsletter. Please see the registration for to register your children or pass onto your neighbors and friends. Our theme is Water stories of the Bible! The registration form is on the next page.

Suzanne Lovejoy and Connie Wing have been working to put together an *Easter Egg Hunt* for Easter morning following worship. If your children or grandchildren plan to participate please let us know by emailing the church office.





Register me for Vacation Bible School

Child's name _____

Gender: Male _____ Female _____ Birthdate ____/____/____ Grade completed _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Parents/Guardian _____

Home phone _____

Work phone _____ Cell phone _____

Email _____

Emergency contact

_____ Phone _____

Relationship to child _____

Please place my child with

Name of home church

Food allergies Y _____ N _____ List :

Medical concerns Y _____ N _____ Explain:

**April Welcoming and Confirming Deacon — Leon March**

	Offering	Collectors/Counters	Coffee Hour
April 3	S. Lovejoy	D. Colonnese,/N. Taranto	Suzanne Lovejoy
April 10	The Marches	The Twomblys	Cynthia Landry
April 17	P. McCarty, B. Trup	D. Colonnese/N. Taranto	No Coffee Hour
April 24	D. Colonnese, T. Linley	The Twomblys	Sara Trup

May Welcoming and Confirming Deacon — Daisy Colonnese

	Offering	Collectors/Counters	Coffee Hour
May 1	Kailey and Leah Baczewski	N. Taranto /Daisy Colonnese	TBD
May 8	P. Doremus / T. Linley	The Twomblys	TBD
May 15	The Marches	N. Taranto /Daisy Colonnese	TBD
May 22	D. Colonnese / B. Trup	The Twomblys	TBD
May 29	S. Lovejoy / /N. Taranto	N. Taranto /Daisy Colonnese	TBD

If you would like to participate in worship by doing the offering, or hosting coffee hour, please call a member of the Board of Deacons or call or email the church office. If you are unable to serve as assigned, please contact the church office.

Altar Flower and Coffee Hour Hosting for 2022

Please see our ***Flower Calendar*** for 2022 If you would like to celebrate a special date of a birthday, anniversary or other special occasion. You may order or provide the flowers yourself or have the office order them (\$35.00).

Hosting a Coffee Hour is a wonderful way also to celebrate a special occasion.

- Why: Celebrating a special day with your church family, to welcome people to a moment of fellowship.
- How: Call the church office or send an email if you would like to be on our rotation to host Coffee Hour or would like to just do a special date.

April 2022

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

					1	2
3 10:00 Worship w/ Communion 11:00 Coffee hour 11:30 Deacon's Meeting	4	5	6 7:00 Guided Meditation Zoom	7	8	9
10 10:00 Palm Sunday Worship 11:00 Coffee Hour	11	12	13	14 7:30 Maundy Thursday Service	15 9:00-2:00 Good Friday Prayer	16
17 10:00 Easter Worship 11:00 Easter Egg Hunt	18	19	20 3:30 Bible Study	21	22	23
24 10:00 Worship 11:00 Coffee hour	25	26	27 3:30 Bible Study	28 7:00PM Guided meditation	29	30
						

May 2022

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

1 10:00 Worship w/ Communion 11:00 Coffee hour 11:30 Deacon's Meeting	2	3	4 3:30 Bible Study	5 7:00PM Guided meditation	6	7
8 10:00 Worship 11:00 Coffee hour	9	10	11 3:30 Bible Study	12 7:00PM Guided meditation	13	14
15 10:00 Worship 11:00 Coffee hour	16	17	18 3:30 Bible Study	19 7:00PM Guided meditation	20	21 8AM—12PM Trunk Tag Sale
22 10:00 Worship 11:00 Coffee hour	23	24	25 3:30 Bible Study	26 7:00PM Guided meditation	27	28
29 10:00 Worship 11:00 Coffee hour	30 Happy Memorial Day Offices Closed	31				



*Thank you to all those who contributed
Flowers or Virtual Flowers in
Celebration of Easter.*



Daisy Colonnese
In memory of Tony

Phillip Doremus
In Memory of Rita and Andrew

Eunice Hanson
In Memory of Loved Ones

The Kondratovich Family
*In Memory of Kim and Walter
Kondratovich and Ralph Kemp*

Chris Kvaka
*In Memory of Winthrop Bibbins
and Donna Bibbins*

Tom Linley
In Memory of My Parents

Claudia Nielsen
*In Memory of Lisa
Calderone-Perrelli 1961-2018*

Pat & Judy McCarty
In Honor of Grandchildren

Jim and Fran Ostrove
*In Memory of the Maglia and
Ostrove grandparents*

Rev. Amanda and Bill Ostrove
*In Honor of all our nieces and
nephews and the newest one to come*

Nathalie Taranto
*In Honor of my fellow church
members who faithfully serve and
support the congregation*

Barbara Trup
*In Memory of all the family I
have lost*

Connie Wing
In Honor of the wonder of Easter

The Lovejoy Family
*In Memory of Sam Eggleston,
Joan and Frederick Lovejoy, and
Sarah Watson Lovejoy*

Karen Lange
*In Memory of Alfred H. Lange,
Andrew E. Lange, and
William Andrew Lange*





These things have I spoken unto you, that my Joy might remain in you, and that your Joy might be full! John 15:11



NEWS FROM THE HILL . . .
THE CONGREGATIONAL
CHURCH OF EASTON
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Easton, CT 06612-0037