

**FEDERATED COMMUNITY CHURCH**  
**590 Main St.**  
**PO Box 246**  
**Hampden, MA 01036**

**Nonprofit  
organization  
U.S. postage  
PAID  
Springfield,  
MA  
Permit no  
2702**

# *The Federated Courier*

Federated Community Church  
590 Main Street  
Hampden, MA 01036

E-mail: [hampdenfederated@gmail.com](mailto:hampdenfederated@gmail.com)  
[www.hampdenfederatedchurch.org](http://www.hampdenfederatedchurch.org)  
Tel. (413) 566-3711

Volume 77 4

April 2024

---

## *From the Pastor's Desk*

Good News!

Spring has come! Flowers bloom, and trees spread green buds and leaves, painting our hearts colorful. It looks like everything is being resurrected with Jesus Christ. I have three good news for this month: new deacons, the Annual Meeting, and my first son's coming.

Firstly, we had the great joy of Easter. Along with beautiful Easter services, inspiring music, and a joyful pancake breakfast, we installed three new deacons: Mary Howell, Jocelyn Smith, and Dale Varney. In fact, they were our deacons in the past, so we reinstated their deaconship. Moreover, Linda Hornig and Bill Cunningham are also scheduled to be reinstated after Bill recovers from his surgery. Therefore, within a month or two, the number of our deacons will be 11. I hope and pray that we will have even more deacons in the future, enhancing our spiritual leadership.

Secondly, April 7th will be our Annual Meeting this year. It will be a celebrative event for our church. Our church attendance grew with 7 new members and other new non-members. Moreover, 16 congregants became active members after a long time of inactive status during the last year. New ministries started, and ongoing ministries were revitalized. So, please join the Annual Meeting.

We will prepare a soup luncheon right after worship so that we can have the annual meeting after lunch.

Lastly, my first son, Tom, will join me in the middle of April. As he is scheduled to go to a medical school in Albany, NY, in July, he decided to stay with me for a while. I am already excited to have him with me. I have a million plans on how to cook for him with my very limited menus, where to bring him to show the beauty of New England, and what to prepare to accommodate him. I am full of joy, even only with a thought. I hope and pray that all of our FCC family will have a wonderful month of April.

### *From the Deacons' Bench*

Lent has always been a time of reflection for me to look inside my own soul and work on taking out the dirty wash and replacing it with new thoughts. My focus is on Jesus as a role model of how to live and think and act so that the body of Christ grows stronger. As long as I live, I hope to continue this path until it becomes so natural as I finally come more and more like Christ.

So how do I actualize this. I think on what gifts God has given me and find ways to apply it to the benefit of the body of Christ through the church. I had a chance this past month to use my teaching skills to help lead Bible study on the book of Philippians. I remembered how important it is to work at getting along with others, not conflicting with them over what end up most of the time being worthless strife.

If it doesn't reflect Christ, leave it behind as unnecessary baggage. Over and over, we heard from Paul to keep our focus on Jesus. I heard loud and clear to worry about nothing, but to pray about everything. Prayer is our most powerful weapon against anything that distracts us in our life walk with Christ.

Using the talents God gave us blesses the body of Christ and it blesses us as well. What gifts do you have that you are hiding under the bushel basket? Come on; jump on into the body and share it with us.

Sincerely yours in Christ, Bobby Schofield



## Sympathy to

*family & friends of **Larry Hatch** who passed away on March 11<sup>th</sup>.*

*family & friends of **Dale Barrett** who passed away on March 13<sup>th</sup>.*

*family & friends of **Beatrice Moriarty** who passed away on March 15<sup>th</sup>.*

## Thank You!

Thank you to the **Smith family** for sponsoring our April 2024 Newsletter.

## Soup Ministry

I would like to thank those who have already signed up to make homemade soups for our shut-ins and people recovering from illness or surgery. The hope is to have volunteers to make soup once or twice a year, at different times. There is a sign-up sheet in Libby Hall.



Blessings,  
Elsie Bradway, Deacon



## *April Birthdays*

Birthday Greetings to the following members of our church who celebrate birthdays in April.



Elizabeth Nelson	04/02
Steven Elliot	04/02
Judith Hatch	04/04
Matthew Fisher	04/06
Richard Patullo	04/07
Abigail Tulloch	04/08
Gretchen Warner	04/10
Joyce Burt	04/12
Benjamin Blain	04/16
Jane Wyman	04/16
Richard Regnier	04/17
David Quill	04/18
Maurice Dezan	04/19
Matthew Doyle	04/19
Brittany Fisher	04/19
Karen Leger	04/19
David Anable	04/20
Marcia Willey	04/22
Melanie Bliss	04/23
Sarah Blain	04/25
Sally Badillo	04/27
Jeanne Westcott	04/27
Kim Cummins	04/28
Alice Wilcox	04/28
Mason Kennedy	04/28
Annabelle Tulloch	04/29
Anne Collins	04/30

## *Wedding Anniversaries*

John & Barbara Panek	04/11
Mitch & Mary Drozdowski	04/21
Matt & Diane Fisher	04/21



## Prayer Corner



Ann Beroth  
Beverly Barrett & family  
Phyllis  
Gail Banning  
Lois Pixley  
Dennis Connor  
Andrew  
Carl  
Earl  
Rory  
Joanna  
Connie  
Ellen  
Karen  
Peter  
Jacob  
Howard  
Ryan  
David  
Linda

Kelly Family  
Mary Beth  
Susan  
Chantel  
Greg  
Ellie  
Pete  
John  
Judy  
Beth  
George  
Diane  
Laurie Schoolcraft  
Jonathon  
Phil  
Joanne  
Jane  
Scott  
Steve

For World Peace

For victims & families of mass shootings

For the people of Palestine & Israel

For those affected by hurricanes

For the people of Ukraine

For those traveling

For those affected by floods and fires

For those battling cancer

For those struggling with addiction or mental illness

For those that grieve the loss of loved ones

For first responders & health care workers

For the people Afghanistan, Iran, Haiti, Russia & Middle East

For the changing climate

For our country

For all world leaders

For shut-ins and those who are isolated

For the homeless

For Asian & Black people & all who are persecuted for simply being  
how God created them

# *Worship Servant Yearly Schedule*

The worship team made a schedule for worship servants until the end of the year. It includes prayers, scripture readers, and ushers by date. The table looks like this.

<b>Date</b>	<b>Prayer</b>	<b>Scripture</b>	<b>Ushers</b>	<b>Christian Calendar</b>	<b>Misc.</b>
3-10-24	Marilyn Connor	Karen Paton	Beverly Barrett Beverly Burnell		Violet
3-17-24	Linda Hornig	Sal Badillo			Violet
3-24-24	Bobby Schofield	Josh Sterling		Palm Sunday	Violet or Red
3-31-24	Michael DeSanti	Michael DeSanti		Easter	White
4-7-24			Sheila Hess Shirley Facey		White
4-14-24	Karen Kielb	Marilyn Connor			White
4-21-24	Beverly Burnell	Shirley Facey			White
4-28-24	Irene Cutting	Reece Dezan			White

The schedule is blank on every first Sunday of the month because the pastor prays on that day, and children read the scripture if they are available. Ushers will serve by month.

We attached the schedule to a wall beside the kitchen door in Libby Hall. Please check the schedule and let us know if your schedule needs to be modified. The deacon of the month will contact you a month ahead of time to reconfirm and remind you of the prayer and reading schedule. And, Joyce Ogonowski will contact you for the ushers. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Justin Fontaine or Bobby Schofield.

Blessings,  
Kwan Kim

## *Christian Education / Children's Ministry*

April is a wonderful time to highlight the efforts of our Christian Education team and the journey of our Sunday School students. Together, they embody the spirit of faith, learning, and community that lies at the heart of our church family.

Behind every enriching Sunday School experience lies a dedicated team of educators, mentors, and volunteers who nurture the spiritual growth of our children. Our aim is to foster an environment where they feel accepted, loved, and encouraged to embrace their identity in Christ. This month, we extend our heartfelt gratitude to our Christian Education team for their commitment, time and passion for sharing God's love with our youngest members. Their dedication is truly the foundation of our Sunday School program.

We are blessed to have a talented and dedicated props team (Bill & Lynn Cunningham) that brings joy and excitement to our Children's Moment each week. Through their creativity and attention to detail, they transform simple props and messages into powerful teaching tools that captivate the hearts and minds of our young ones (as well as our congregation). We extend our deepest appreciation to Bill & Lynn for their valuable contributions to our worship experience.

Pastor Kwan continues to inspire and uplift us with his words of wisdom, guidance, encouragement and music. It is wonderful how he includes the children in the worship service by being acolytes, reading Scripture and assisting with Communion to name a few. Let us remain open to the transformative power of God's Word as we journey together in faith under Pastor Kwan's compassionate leadership & commitment to Christ.

Our Sunday School students are the shining stars of our faith community, each one uniquely gifted, contributing so much in discussions, encouraging & praying for each other. As they gather each week to grow in their understanding of God's love, we celebrate their deep faith, knowledge of Scripture, enthusiasm and sense of humor as we get to know each of them during class time &



Children's Moment. Let us continue to support and lift up our students as they grow in their spiritual journey.

We are so grateful to our entire congregation for your support, encouragement, and prayers. Your presence, participation, and generosity enrich our church family, creating a warm and welcoming environment. Together, we embody the love of Christ and share His light with the people & world around us.

As we move forward, let us remain steadfast in our commitment to fostering a community of faith, love, and discipleship where all are welcome and empowered to grow in God's grace. We look forward to updating everyone about the Pennsylvania trip, including the play, "David" & the Amish country tour in the next newsletter.

In Christ's Love,  
Jocelyn Smith  
Christian Education Coordinator



## *All Creature Great and Small*

On Saturday May 4<sup>th</sup> we will have Pet Day from 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM. At 1:00 PM there will be demonstrations of the Ludlow Sheriff's Department and the State police K-9 units. At 2:00 PM there will be a Blessing of the Animals. Please note that all dogs must be leashed. We hope that you and your pets will join us!



**Federated Community Church**  
590 Main Street  
Hampden, MA 01036

ANNOUNCES


# **ALL CHURCH ANNUAL MEETING**

Will follow Worship on Sunday, April 7<sup>th</sup>

A soup lunch will be served

All members are eligible to vote and it is important that you attend to be up to date with church information. Per our bylaws we do need to have a quorum.

Your presence is important and appreciated.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	<b>1</b> 10:30 AM Line Dancing	<b>2</b> 10:00 AM Line Dancing 6:00 PM AA 6:00 PM Bells	<b>3</b> 10:30 AM Bible Study 1:00 PM Knit, Stitch, Pray	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b> 7:30 PM AA	<b>6</b>
<b>7</b> 10:00 AM Worship Annual Meeting	<b>8</b> 10:30 AM Line Dancing	<b>9</b> 10:00 AM Line Dancing 6:00 PM AA 6:00 PM Bells 7:00 PM Finance	<b>10</b> 10:30 AM Bible Study 1:00 PM Knit, Stitch, Pray	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> 7:30 PM AA	<b>13</b> 8:00 AM Men's Mystery Breakfast
<b>14</b> 10:00 AM Worship	<b>15</b> 10:30 AM Line Dancing	<b>16</b> 10:00 AM Line Dancing 6:00 PM Bells 6:00 PM AA 7:00 PM BOD	<b>17</b> 10:30 AM Bible Study 1:00 PM Knit, Stitch, Pray	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b> 7:30 PM AA	<b>20</b>
<b>21</b> 10:00 AM Worship	<b>22</b> 10:30 AM Line Dancing	<b>23</b> Pennsylvania Trip 10:00 AM Line Dancing 6:00 PM Bells 6:00 PM AA	<b>24</b> Pennsylvania Trip 10:30 AM Bible Study 1:00 PM Knit, Stitch, Pray	<b>25</b> Pennsylvania Trip	<b>26</b> 7:30 PM AA	<b>27</b> 8:00 AM Men's Mystery Breakfast
<b>28</b> 10:00 AM Worship	<b>29</b> 10:30 AM Line Dancing	<b>30</b> 10:00 AM Line Dancing 6:00 PM Bells 6:00 PM AA				