

Our schedule for **HOLY WEEK**

Palm Sunday -- April 1st @ 9:30am

Come and join us in our remembrance and celebration of Jesus' entry into Jerusalem as our Holy Week experiences begin.

This will be a Communion Service

with palms distributed by the Sunday School children at the conclusion of worship.

The children will also be enjoying an Easter Egg Hunt in Sunday School!

Maundy Thursday – April 5th @ 7pm

You will be so glad if you make the time to participate in this deeply moving liturgical experience. We will remember the upper room experience of Jesus and the disciples through our service of Communion followed by the Order for Tenebrae, the service of shadows, which guides us through Jesus' betrayal, arrest, trial and death.

Good Friday – April 6th @ 10am

Join us in Wilcox Park in Westerly for a community observation of the Stations of the Cross using a liturgy written by former pastor, the Rev. Kathleen Crockford.

Easter Sunday – April 8th @ 9:30am

Come and be a part of our joyous celebration of the empty tomb on Easter morning in our service of beautiful flowers, special music and new life made possible as we greet each other with that most ancient of all Christian greetings –

“Christ is risen! Christ is risen indeed!”

Do note there is no Sunday School on this day.

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For your convenience an envelope is enclosed in this month's newsletter for those who wish to make a special offering to our church.

Please pray for the following members and friends of our church:

Evelyn Roberts	Elizabeth Ball	Pat Donovan
Jimmy	Ann Brown	Barbara
Barbara Simmons	Charlie Wright	Madelyn Stratton
Sandi Davis	Doris Gouvin	Fred
Jeff	Catherine	Debbie
Jim	Millie Silver	Carole Lennon
Vince Amkhamavong, U.S. Marines		Jonathan Salovitz
Gretchen Dessaulles	Susan & Devin Moynihan	
Rick & Shirley Harrington		John Dillon
Sheryl	Laurie	
The Pendleton Family		

If you would like anyone added or taken off this list for the next newsletter, please call the office or let one of our deacons know. Thank you.

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Diaconate Schedule

<u>Date</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Telephone</u>
Apr 1	Gary Davis	(860) 599-4279
Apr 8	Ed Stratton	(401) 596-4740
Apr 15	Chris Fuller	(401) 315-2282
Apr 22	Brenda Cornell	(860) 599-3580
Apr 29	Melissa Stratton	(401) 596-4740

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APRIL BIRTHDAYS

Happy Birthday to:

Pam DelPozo-Waldron - 6
Barbara Johnson - 16
Dan McCrary – 25
Travis McCrary – 25
Emily Dessaulles - 28

Happy 25th Anniversary to:
Douglas & Jenny Brummund – April 25

Please add in your special days by calling the church office!

CHAIRPERSONS of our BOARDS & COMMITTEES

The following people have been chosen by their respective boards and committees to serve as chairpersons for the coming year:

Board of Deacons – *Claire Calabretta & Chris Fuller*, Co-Chairs
Board of Trustees – *Brian Johnson*, Chair
Board of Christian Education – *Bethany Foster*, Superintendent
Debbie Miceli, Chair

Committees:

Mission – *Jenny Brummund*, Chair
Flower – *Charlotte Korean* (contact person)
By-Laws – *Bob Sicilian* (contact person)
Lay Life & Work – *Linda Evans* (contact person)
Kitchen – *Linda Evans* (contact person)
Visitation Team – *Barbara Colby*, Chair
Nominating – *Christa Colprit* (contact person)
Music – *Janet Allen* (contact person)
Stewardship – *Jay Macko*, Chair
Delegates – *Carolyn LeRoy* (contact person)
Membership – *Barbara Sadowski*, Chair

Mission Committee News

The **WARM Center meal** for Easter Sunday, **April 8th**, is going to be the responsibility of the *Membership, Stewardship, and Flower Committees and the Delegates*. The Mission Committee appreciates everyone's efforts in making meals for this important outreach mission every month.

Fair Trade items are available in Fellowship Hall. We have *coffee* (regular, decaf, flavored toffee caramel, hazelnut, and whole bean), *tea* (breakfast, green, and decaf), *baking cocoa*, and 6 kinds of *chocolate bars*. Please **stop by the Mission Cart to purchase these items** or to place any special order. You are welcome to serve yourself. A price list and collection tin are on the cart...or you may ask a Mission Committee member for assistance.

Please remember our **red Buckets** located at the entrance to the church. Please bring in your non-perishable food for the **Pawcatuck Neighborhood Center (PNC)**. Their "Food Locker" needs *coffee, tea, juice, cereal, jam and jelly, & canned fruit*. Their "Baby Warm & Well Program" needs *baby powder, diapers, and wipes*. The **Living Supplies Closet** at the PNC needs *shampoo, deodorant, disposable razors, and paper products*. The **Lions Club** makes good use of used eyeglasses.
- *Mission Committee*

LIFE'S JOURNEYS

*Prayers of sympathy
are extended to the family of:
Arlene Pendleton*

ROAST PORK DINNER

Saturday, April 21st

5:00 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.

Sponsored by the Men's club

Roast Pork, potatoes, vegetable & dessert

Tickets: Adults - \$12.00

Children under 10: \$6.00

Family plan: (2 adults & 2 children) - \$24.00

Contact a member of the Men's Club

or the church office for tickets.

Pawcatuck River Duck Race

Spring can't be far behind if the DUCKS are arriving!

The Mission Committee is selling duck chances for the **Pawcatuck River Duck Race**, sponsored by the Westerly-Pawcatuck Chamber of Commerce. When you "sponsor a duck" for \$5.00, you have a chance to win many great prizes, including a trip to Disney World! Our church receives \$2.85 for each duck sold, so this is an easy and FUN fundraiser! The Mission Committee has traditionally donated the funds to our general account, in appreciation for all you do for others throughout the year! The race will be held by the bridge in downtown Westerly on Saturday, **April 28th**, however, you do not need to be present to win! Maybe YOU will be lucky if you sponsor a ducky!

From the Pastor...

Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples,

"I have seen the Lord."

John 20:18

In these words of Mary Magdalene we find the essence of the Easter message. She has just had the first encounter anyone had with the Risen Christ and her response to this miraculous occurrence is to do exactly what he told her to do – go and tell the good news of the Risen Christ. Over two thousand years later, our response to the Easter experience needs to be the same as Mary Magdalene's. We need to go and tell someone about Jesus, about the difference knowing what we know about Jesus makes in our lives. How's that for a scary proposition....

This "go and tell" idea is not new information to any of us, not really. We know we are supposed to "go and tell" but, honestly, aren't we more comfortable with "show and tell?" By this I mean that we know it is our faith that inspires us to act the way we do when we are out in the world. We try to model in our lives that we do live by Jesus' commandments to love God and love our fellow humans. We volunteer and do things like bring in our canned goods to support local social service agencies. We also want the church to be a beacon of Christ's Good News to our community for a long time so we donate our time, talent and treasure to the church itself so that happens. All this is wonderful. But it is not "go and tell." It's much more "show and tell" because we think if we just show the community by all we do how wonderful we are, then they will come to us for the rest of the story of our faith. If it were that easy, our church and every church would be filled and they're not. So, let's try something different that's also something very, very old in the history of our faith.

As we celebrate anew the miraculous and joyful message of Easter, let's take this opportunity to do more go and tell. But, let's start with baby steps. Go up to a friend or co-worker or neighbor and tell them about our church and ask them to come with you to worship on Easter Sunday. Tell them how much UCC Westerly means to you and that you'd like to share the experience with them just once, no strings attached. You might be surprised what happens next. What's the worst that can happen? They'll say no? At least you tried, and believe me,

they'll notice that and who knows what might happen down the road.
And what if they say yes? That's a good thing...

So, how about it? Let's have a "go and tell" Easter service and let's pack this place! We've got good news to share about our still speaking God and God's Son Jesus who changed everything forever. Let's spread the joy. Go and tell and see what happens. Leave the rest to God. Mary Magdalene did just that and here we are. What more is there to know?

Blessings,
Pastor Ruth

Flowers for the Sanctuary

If you would like to provide **flowers** to enhance our worship experience, please sign up on the flower chart. They can be given in memory of someone, and in celebration or thanksgiving of someone. Flowers are now purchased from **McQuades**. They charge \$30.00 per week (which includes delivery) for two arrangements. Please be sure to write on the chart whether you wish to take the flowers home (one arrangement or both) or have them donated (one or both). The Visitation Team delivers them to shut-ins.

Beginning on April 15th our new supplier, McQuades will not bill you individually. Please **make a check out to McQuades** (not the CHURCH) and **mark UCC on the memo line**--and bring the check (or mail it) to the church office. Please get your check in at least 2 weeks before the date you have reserved for flowers. Susan will mark PAID on the flower chart next to your name and will see to it that the checks are turned in to McQuades. McQuades will only deliver the flowers if they have been paid for in advance. If you have any questions, please call the office.