

A publication of the East Woodstock Congregational Church, 220 Woodstock Road, East Woodstock, CT 06244

**Deadline for submissions: the 20<sup>th</sup> of each month**

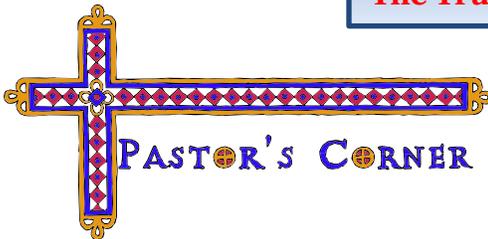
Pastor: Rev. Dr. Susan J. Foster Director of Christian Education: Louise Labbe-Fahy

Youth Group Director: Anne Sorensen Music Director/Organist: Nancy Ducharme

Bell Choir Director: Andrew Tomkins Office Manager: Heidi Tucker

Office: 860-928-7449 Residence: 860-928-7145 Email address: [ewccpastor@gmail.com](mailto:ewccpastor@gmail.com)

**The Trumpet deadline is the 20<sup>th</sup> of every month!**



### To be confirmed or not?

I didn't want to be confirmed when I was 13. I had endured confirmation class with 20 other teenagers for a year, gathering on Tuesday afternoon with our earnest and well-meaning associate pastor. He was an excellent youth group leader but he struggled (or perhaps it was only my struggle) to make the confirmation curriculum relevant and interesting. Mostly we looked forward to the newly-installed soda machine at our church which allowed us to sip our Cokes as we tried to listen to lessons about the Bible and church history.

At the end of the year, we went on a "decision-making" retreat where we spent time learning about the significance of church membership, the importance of pledging ourselves to faithful living and the value of endeavoring to serve God with all our hearts, minds, and spirits.

I didn't feel ready. I wasn't sure what I believed. I was scared to make a promise to God because what if I couldn't keep it?

But I was 13 and not a rebel. The retreat was billed as "decision-making" but it felt more like "decision-assumption." It wasn't explained what would happen if we weren't confirmed. Would we be cast into eternal darkness? Or – perhaps even worse for a teenager – excluded, shunned? No longer considered "part of the group"? It didn't seem truly up for discussion. I didn't hear anyone else voicing any concern or notice anyone hesitating about what seemed to me to be an enormous step. So I went along.

Our rather intimidating senior minister performed the confirmation, placing his hand heavily on my head and offering a quick prayer. I didn't feel any different after the

service. For the next three years I was very active in church through youth group and choir, going on retreats and enjoying time with my friends. When I graduated from high school, I considered myself a graduate from church, as well. It would be a long time before I stepped into a sanctuary again.

On Sunday, June 2<sup>nd</sup> our congregation will be celebrating confirmation. The parents of our confirmands understand that while they may have been able to insist that their children attend class (and I'm glad they did), they cannot force their child to be confirmed. It is an individual decision based on personal faith.

I hope that choice is clear to the 11 teenagers who have experienced our confirmation program. While I hope that it was more riveting and engaging than my memory of confirmation, I can't promise that. But I am confident that I let them know that they are on a lifelong journey of faith exploration. If they aren't ready to be confirmed now, they should wait. And in the meantime, they can continue to be a valued part of our church family.

Very few faith decisions are "once and done." More often, we need to choose daily – sometimes hourly – how to live our faith and say yes to a loving God who calls us to share hope and new life. We confirm our faith by loving our neighbor and treating one another as we want to be treated.

Our confirmands are making a public decision on Sunday and then will be asked to live that decision out in their daily lives.

How do you confirm your faith?

Yours in Christ,

Rev. Dr. Susan J. Foster

**The following are the scriptures for the month of June:**

You are invited to read them as part of your daily devotions and as preparation for worship.

**June 2**

Acts 16:16-34  
 Psalm 97  
 Revelations 22:12-14,  
 16-17, 20-21  
 John 17:20-26



**June 9**

Acts 2:1-21  
 Psalm 104:34-34, 35b  
 Genesis 11:1-9  
 Romans 8:14-17

**June 16**

Proverbs 8:1-4, 22-31  
 Psalm 8  
 Romans 5:1-5  
 John 16:12-15

**June 23**

1 Kings 19:1-15a  
 Psalms 42 & 43  
 Isaiah 65:1-9  
 Psalm 22:19-28  
 Galatians 3:23-29  
 Luke 8:26-39

**June 30**

2 Kings 2:1-2, 6-14  
 Psalm 77:1-2, 11-20  
 1 Kings 19:15-16, 19-21  
 Psalm 16  
 Galatians 5:1, 13-25  
 Luke 9:51-62

**Worship News**

*We hope that you can join every Sunday for worship and fellowship – and bring a friend!*

**June 2:** Communion Sunday/Confirmation Sunday

**June 9:** Children’s Day

**June 16:** Father’s Day, Bell Choir ringing

**June 23:** Special music

**June 30:**

**Summer Worship**

Our church and the Hill Church will continue our long-standing tradition of sharing worship during the summer –

**July: Hill Church**

July 7: Sue Foster

July 14: Sue Foster

July 21: Meredith Jeffers

July 28: Meredith Jeffers

**August: EWCC**

August 4:

August 11:

August 18:

August 25:

September 1: Sue Foster

Be sure to join us for these combined worship services so that we can worship with our neighbors during the summer months.

**Summer worship starts at 9:00 am!!\*\***

Study <sup>the</sup> Bible  
 with us



*A mid-week opportunity for conversation, coffee, learning, and laughter.*

Give yourself the gift of time...

**Wednesday morning study group 10:00 a.m.**

**Everyone is welcome!**

## Thank You!!!

*Our church is blessed by the work of many volunteers. Every bit of effort and caring helps the church live out its calling to be the Body of Christ. This month we especially would like to thank...*

**Dorrie Scranton** and the wonderful team of workers who made our clothing sale such a success. Thank you for planning, organizing, sorting, folding, and beautifully displaying the bounty of clothes.

## Men's Fellowship News

The men of the congregation have been enjoying gathering for breakfast at the church for good food and fellowship. Our next gathering will be on **Sunday, June 9<sup>th</sup> at 8:00 a.m.** All men are invited – and please bring a friend along!



## News from the Pews

*Do you have a special event you would like to share with your Church family – a birth, a graduation, a new job, an engagement, a wedding, a special honor, etc., etc.? Drop a note off in the secretary's office or e-mail Heidi at [ewccsec@yahoo.com](mailto:ewccsec@yahoo.com).*

**Lillian Judith Rebello** was born on May 3<sup>rd</sup> to proud parents Ashley and Nick. Lily is the granddaughter of Dianna and Arthur Rebello and Diane and Todd Morin and the great-granddaughter of Kerstin and Richard Forrester. May God bless you and keep you, baby Lily!

**Seth Parker** and **Kathryn Stein** will be married on June 15<sup>th</sup> and **Lisa Hibbard** and **Wayne Daniels** will be married on June 29. We ask God to bless them and their families with many happy years together.

## In Memory

*We give thanks to God for the completed life of*

**Von Hibbard** who passed away on April 30 at the age of 101!

*We give thanks for her completed life and the difference that she made to so many people in our community and congregation.*

## Another Successful Clothing Sale!

I'd like to thank all the incredibly busy bees that spent so many hours helping with the clothing sale! There was no way it would have been possible without everyone's help! We raised \$1,700 dollars on Friday to help offset church expenses. On Saturday, we raised \$900 for the FRESH program at the Woodstock Academy. They were so thankful, as they had just purchased food for the Weekend Food Bags that they distribute to the local families with school aged children who need assistance, and they had little left for next month. We also helped some of the families from the local shelters and are sending shoes to Thailand with Leah Randolph's missions program.

It is always a tremendous amount of work for 1 1/2 days, but the benefits of all we do are felt far and wide, in our community and around the world. I feel so very blessed by everyone's support. Thank you again.



Dorrie Scranton

## Free Summer Yoga

Jenn Brouillard, owner of Roots to Fly Wellness, will offer a free yoga class on the first Saturday of the summer months. Classes will be held in fellowship hall (or maybe even outside on the common, depending on the weather). Come and try some yoga! Everyone is welcome. Please bring a yoga mat if you have one.

Class will be held at 9:00 – 10:00 a.m.

- Saturday, June 1<sup>st</sup>
- Saturday, July 6<sup>th</sup>
- Saturday, August 3<sup>rd</sup>



# Congregational Meeting



The roof of the brick schoolhouse is failing and in need of repair.

Society has gathered quotes and considered funding options, and now seeks the approval of the congregation to proceed on this important maintenance project. Please plan to spend a few minutes following church to hear about the issue and vote.

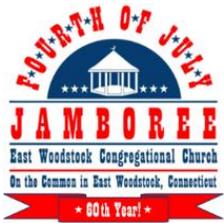
## Call for a meeting of the East Woodstock Congregational Church Sunday, June 16, 2019 immediately following church.

To consider and act upon the following

- 1) To authorize the expense of up to \$14,000 to repair and replace the roof and soffits of the brick schoolhouse.
- 2) To hear and act on any other business to come before the meeting.



"Ed moves that we buy new choir slickers and adjourn for pizza. Do I hear a second?"



**JAMBOREE COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

Following are the names and phone numbers of those who have volunteered to take charge of the many jobs for the Jamboree.

**THERE ARE STILL A FEW POSITIONS WHERE YOUR HELP IS NEEDED!**



If you would like to help, please contact a member of the committee, or whoever is in charge of the area you would like to volunteer for. Thank you!

**Committee Co-Chairs**                      **Christine Armstrong/Lynn Looby 860-928-2215/860-942-7584**

**Publicity Chairperson**

Advertising/Ad sales	Angela Young	860-928-1978
Program/Trumpet/Church Bulletins	Heidi Tucker	860-928-7449
Posters	Angela Young	860-928-1978

**Grounds Chairperson**

Road Signs/Grounds	Seth and DeEtta Spalding	860-450-9533
Parking	Constables	
Decorating Bandstand	Lynn Looby	860-942-7548
Shuttle Van Drivers	Ed Baldyga	508-764-3595

**Bandstand**

Sound System	Rich Gaudette	
Broadcaster/Master of Ceremonies	Sue Foster	860-928-7449
Live Music	Music Committee/Ben Gould	508-320-0421
Flag Ceremony	Boy Scouts	

**Food Booths**

Food Permits	Christine Armstrong/Lynn Looby	860-928-2215/860-942-7584
Chicken Barbeque	Tom Chenail	860-974-2675
Coffee & Donuts	Deb Vuillemot & Family	860-428-8815
Soft Drinks	Anne Sorensen & Youth Group	860-428-2198
Snow Cones & Water	Windsor & Amy White	860-315-7816
Ice Cream Social	Susan Converse	860-208-9432
Hamburgers & Hot Dogs	The Looby Family	860-942-7584
Cookies	Olivia Labbe-Fahy	860-315-0033
Pulled Pork Sandwiches	Glen & Christine Lessig	860-928-2434
Strawberry Shortcake	Angela Young/Erica Hermonot	860-928-1978/860-617-3341
Pie Selling	Olivia Labbe-Fahy	860-315-0033

**Special Tables**

Silent Auction	Diane Morin	860-923-2624
Attic Treasures	Judith Wong	203-400-1224
Books	Roger Solomon	860-928-7145
Jewelry Table	Lisa Gould	860-634-7670
Photo Booth	<b>HELP NEEDED!</b>	
T-shirts/Canvas Bags	<b>HELP NEEDED!</b>	

**Games**

Cake Walk	Kristen Brown	
Children's Games	Vickie & Greg Noë	204-527-4557
Frog Jumping Contest	Jim Graley	860-315-4969
Horseshoe Tournament	The Sherman Family	

Jamboree (cont'd)



**Entertainment**

Bella the Clown  
Hay Rides  
Parade  
Water Polo  
Pipe Organ Pops

Christine Armstrong	860-928-2215
Nancy Gale/John White	860-974-1378/860-935-5090
Jill Sherman	860-455-8627
Seth Spalding	
Lynn Looby	860-942-7584

**As always, the committee members and chairpersons would greatly appreciate any help you are willing to give them. Each booth needs several volunteers to run smoothly and allow everyone to have a break and the opportunity to enjoy the festivities during the day. Please consider volunteering an hour or two of your time as a “floater” who can offer a break to whoever needs it.**

**Please sign up in Fellowship Hall for a shift to help out!**

In addition to the booths, we need several people to help with set-up on Tuesday, July 2<sup>nd</sup> & Wednesday, July 3<sup>rd</sup> between 9 am and 3 pm.

This is a major fundraiser for our church and it takes many hands to make it a success!

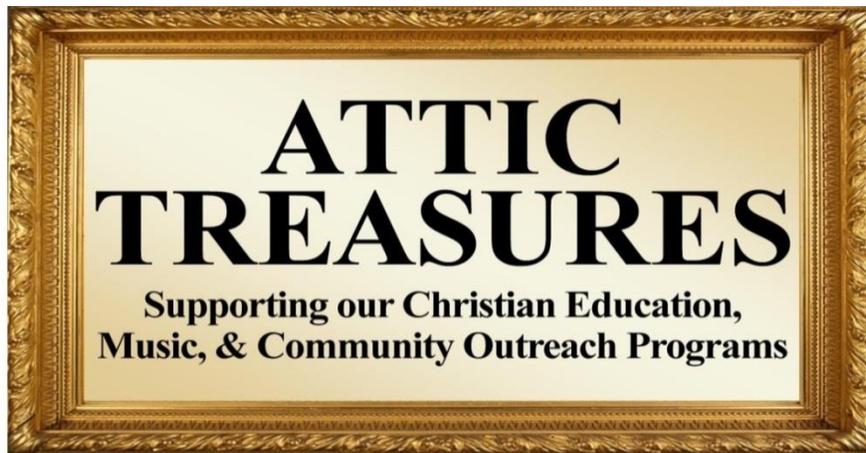
Meetings will be held every Tuesday in June at 7:00 pm. Please join us!!

**Thank you!!**

**We look forward to seeing you on the East Woodstock Common on July 4<sup>th</sup>!**

**Invite your neighbors, friends and family and come spend the day!!**





**Support our July 4<sup>th</sup> Jamboree, our many Church & Outreach Programs, AND SPRING CLEAN AT THE SAME TIME!**

**Have you started your donation box yet?**

We'll be accepting donations for Attic Treasures, our Jamboree version of a **great big tag sale**, after worship on Sunday June 16 through business hours and Sundays until noon, July 2. Not sure what to donate? Check out the list in Fellowship Hall!

**Antiques? New or nearly new? Furniture? YES!**

We always have an antiques & collectibles area, and a spot for new and like new items. These are our most sought-after treasures! And we love gently used furniture – it's always a big seller!

**Unfortunately, we can't take everything...**

We love your clean donations but not your trash. Missing parts? Broken? We won't be able to sell it. Not sure if it works? If your donation has an electrical plug, please try it before you donate to be sure it's in working order. (Lamps with a lightbulb are preferred!) **Please CLEAN your items before donating** - clean items can be priced higher and sell faster! We won't be selling clothes, computers/monitors, TVs, most electrical appliances, exercise equipment, or used candles, so please don't donate them. Not sure if it's saleable? Ask one of our Attic Treasures helpers!

**Please pre-sort all items!**

Because our storage space up until Jamboree weekend is EXTREMELY limited, and our prep work is REALLY time-consuming, it really helps if you weed out the "probably should throw away" items before you bring them to the Church. Until the week of the Jamboree, tables will be set up in a very small area. **It's super easy and fun to sort your donated treasures when you bring them in, and place them on tables labelled by category.** This saves us time and space! Yeah! Many thanks in advance!

**Get in on the action! Come join our fun Attic Treasures team!**

We're looking for movers & shakers, leaders and followers, young and seasoned volunteers to unpack, research, sort & price, set up right up to July 4<sup>th</sup>, and to sell and pack up on the 4<sup>th</sup>. Please sign up in Fellowship Hall (coming soon!) or see Judith Wong: 203-400-1224 or [jmwong@pomfret.org](mailto:jmwong@pomfret.org) We match jobs to what you enjoy!

**Many thanks in advance for donating to Attic Treasures!**

Remember, all proceeds benefit the East Woodstock Congregational Church and Christian Ed, Music, and Outreach Programs!

**Get excited! Look for us in Fellowship Hall on Jamboree Day!**



## ***Congratulations Graduates!***

Our prayers and good wishes are with you  
as you begin new ventures!

**8<sup>th</sup> Grade Graduates:** Mitchell Child, Bailey Davignon, Jack Garcia, Quinn Lefevre, Reed Magnan, Abigail Morse, Ainsley Morse, Elias Newall-Vuillemot, Mason Paine, Wyatt Robbie, Amy Shinkiewicz

**High School Graduates:** Evelyn Brown – will attend Bridgewater State University; Heather Converse – will attend Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute; Adam Drouin; Olivia Duncan; Elliot Lawrence; Orion Newall-Vuillemot; Sean Seabold

**College Graduates:** Kaitlyn Baron – Nichols College; Adam Converse – Clark University, Environmental Science; AJ Scranton – Bryant University, Business Administration with concentrations in Marketing and Psychology; Jacob Solomon – Western CT State, Professional Writing; Brent Sorensen – Rochester Institute of Technology

**Other Degrees:** Emily Looby – Worcester State, Masters in Education; Ian Sorensen – George Washington University, Masters in Public Health



*Tell me, what is it you plan to do  
with your one wild and precious life?*

- Mary Oliver



### **Have you changed your email or mailing address?**

Please let the office know of any changes so you don't miss out on *The Trumpet* or other important messages. You can send any changes to [ewccsec@yahoo.com](mailto:ewccsec@yahoo.com). Thank you!

## Outreach Committee News

### **QCRR: Quiet Corner Refugee Resettlement - Updates**

EWCC Outreach (formerly Missions) has been supporting QCRR and the third family has been transitioning well and enjoys their apartment.

- **ESOL:** They arrived with more English-speaking capability than we had been led to expect and are rapidly adding to their vocabulary and conversational skills. They plan on taking classes with EASTCONN and continue home tutoring.
- **EMPLOYMENT:** Because federal requirements direct that the family should be paying rent independently by month five, core team members are investigating employment options in food and sanitation services. The father is college educated with a teaching degree and seems quite self-motivated and organized.
- **EDUCATION:** The family's elder son started first grade in Willimantic the first week of April and shares the class with the second family's daughter, who helped him tour the school his first day. His teacher says that he is a quick study in math. The younger son eagerly anticipates starting PreK in the fall along with the second family's third child. In the meantime, a core team member has introduced him and his father to a playgroup at Natchaug School that meets twice a week.
- **TRANSPORTATION:** The family is learning the bus system so they can be more independent with the long-term goal of the family's father obtaining a U.S. driver's license and getting a car.

### **UPDATE ON THE SECOND FAMILY**

- Our second family has not yet received their Green Cards, but their application was completed in September, and the average time for receiving them is eleven and a half months, so word should come mid to late summer.
- The family is well, and the parents still meet with a volunteer to study English at home on Thursdays in addition to the mother having returned to EAST-CONN classes. The baby and preschooler go with her and learn English at the concurrent childcare program.
- The two older children are doing well in school, where a volunteer checks in on them periodically. The family no longer receives Temporary Family Assistance and the father is now unemployed, so a co-leader checks in with him about his job-hunting progress.

Congratulations to Steve Lane, QCRR Co-leader, who was presented with the *Living Waters Award* from the CT Conference of the UCC at the annual gathering of the CT Conference. This award honors lay leaders who work for justice, live ethically, build community, and promote the common good in their workplaces and in their communities.

### **Renewal of *Covenant to Care* Contract – Sunday June 16 or 23**

*Covenant to Care for Children mobilized and channels the generosity of caring and faithful people to advocate for and provide direct assistance to CT's children who are neglected, abused, or impoverished.*



We have been blessed with the dedication and compassion of our social worker, Judy Castonguay and wish her well as she has been assigned to the Norwich Office. She has helped EWCC meet the needs of children and foster families. Thank you to the congregation for your ongoing generosity, compassion and support.

## Backpacks & School Supplies for TEEG

It may seem early to be discussing backpacks for the next school year, but, in partnership with the Hill Church we are collecting backpacks and school supplies for the local school children through TEEG's Back to School support services. In need are:



- Backpacks
- Notebooks
- Folders
- Binders (three ring)
- Paper for binders



TEEG donations for this drive can be dropped off at either church. They will be blessed at the August 10 service. Thanks for your continued help for our local families.

## Ladies Benevolent Society

### LBS NEWS AND HISTORY

**LBS held its meeting on May 15.** Pastor Sue Foster showed slides on her and Roger's 2018 trip to Achille, Ireland, where they met friends and developed the idea for an international retreat! Six people from the EWCC community will be joining her on the retreat in June. She and Roger then went to The Netherlands and Belgium where they did a Barge & Bike tour. She shared beautiful pictures of the scenic cities, towns, and villages along their route. They biked every day and then joined the barge for dinner and conversations. What a delightful trip!

***Our June meeting is tentatively being planned for lunch at Samuel Slaters in Webster, MA. More information will be provided ASAP. Please consider joining us for a lunch and fellowship overlooking beautiful Webster Lake.***

Now for a bit of LBS History: "Three hurricanes in 1954 kept us cautious and prayerful, but our work went on. The dining room fund had reached \$1,600 and we transferred \$300 from our treasury to the building fund. Committees studied kitchen plans at other churches. Equipment was bought, with the two ladies' groups (LBS and The Village Circle) dividing the cost, also shades were bought for the parsonage. In 1957 the first use of the new Fellowship Hall was for the social hour following World Day of Prayer services in the sanctuary. Covering for the cement floor had not been installed, but bright tables and sunshine made it very pleasant. The Hall was dedicated October 4, 1958... Two of our bonds were cashed to pay for folding chairs in the Hall!"

Today we are proposing to buy new, padded folding chairs along with carts to be able to move them in and out of Fellowship Hall easily. Look for them as we start our "new year" in September.

Respectfully submitted,  
Kerstin Forrester



# Sunday School News

It is hard to believe that in just a few weeks it will be Children's Sunday. Please be sure it is on your calendar... **JUNE 9<sup>th</sup>**. I am asking that **ALL** children arrive by **8:45am**. While the children have been working hard all year... this will be their only rehearsal. It has been "an award-winning year" for everyone and the theme for the day is THE OSCARS! Everyone is encouraged to come "glammed up" ... whatever that means to each child. My hope is that everyone can enjoy as we celebrate how they have all grown in their faith this year.

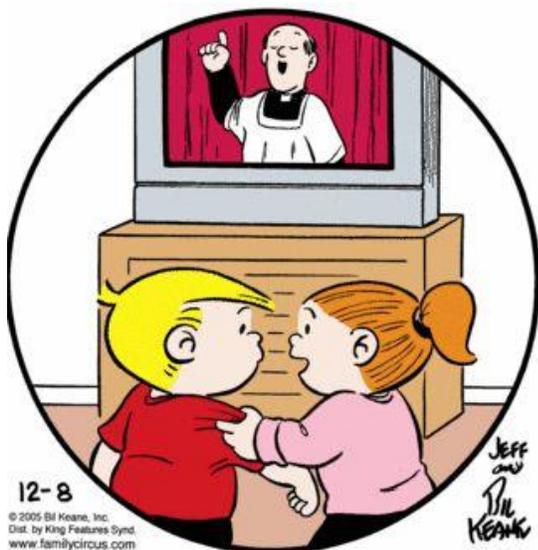
The Christian Education Board would like to try something a little different for VACATION BIBLE CAMP this year. This year camp will be intergenerational. It will also be held over a period of 2 weeks in order to try and allow more people the opportunity to attend. The dates are Tuesday July 9<sup>th</sup>, Thursday July 11<sup>th</sup>, Monday July 15<sup>th</sup>, and Wednesday July 17<sup>th</sup>. As in the past few years it will start with a quick dinner at 5:30pm. This year the theme will be the story of creation. You are encouraged to come to one evening or all four. Come as a family, bring your grandchildren, or come alone...in the end not only will we all enjoy each other, have fellowship, grow in our faith together... but you WON'T need to cook dinner!

My heartfelt thanks to everyone for all your help and support over this year. I have had a blast getting to know all the children better. It is a testament to all of you that you are all raising young people filled with a strong faith and love for God and their neighbors. I've been blessed to see God through their eyes and my faith has deepened from them. A special thank you to our teachers this year, Vickie, Sherry, Kim, Debbie, and Christine.

If you have any ideas or suggestion for next year, please feel free to be in touch with me anytime.

Louise

[cedirectorewcc@gmail.com](mailto:cedirectorewcc@gmail.com)

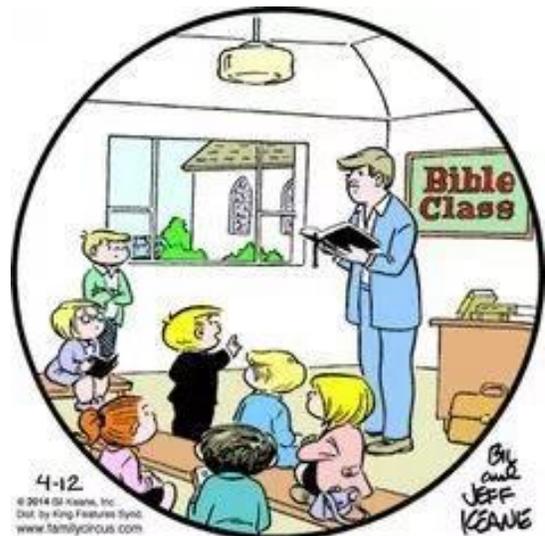


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JEFF  
and  
BIL  
KEANE

"Hear that? People in heaven have ever-laughing life."



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Bill  
and  
JEFF  
KEANE

"It would've been quicker if Paul just posted his letters to the Corinthians on his Facebook page."

# VACATION BIBLE CAMP

## Registration Form

*“In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth...”*

Genesis 1:1

Come experience God’s creation, as we learn from each other in this inter-generational opportunity. We will begin each evening with a quick dinner at 5:30. This camp is for EVERYONE, come as a family, bring your grandchildren, or come alone. Come for one evening or for all four. You decide what works best for you.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone/text \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Please check which session(s) you would like to attend:

- \_\_\_\_\_ Tue July 9<sup>th</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ number attending
- \_\_\_\_\_ Thu July 11<sup>th</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ number attending
- \_\_\_\_\_ Mon July 15<sup>th</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ number attending
- \_\_\_\_\_ Wed July 17<sup>th</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ number attending

Cost is \$5 per person/\$15 max per family per night or \$15 per person/\$50 max per family for all four nights. Scholarships available.

Return this form with your payment to the church office: EWCC, PO Box 156, East Woodstock, CT 06244. Hope to see you there!



# Children's Page

A picture to color.



Mandy Groce '12

[ministry-to-children.com](http://ministry-to-children.com)

June 2019						
Daily Bread request: Peanut Butter & Jelly						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 9:00 am Yoga
2 <b>Confirmation Sunday</b> 6:30 pm EWCB	3 9 am Community Kitchen 10 am Music Class 6 pm Retreat Mtg 7:00 pm Council	4 10:00 am Tai Chi 7:00 pm Jamboree 7:00 pm Deacons	5 10:00 Study Group 7:30 pm Al-anon	6 10:00 am Tai Chi 7:00 pm Bells	7  Ireland Retreat →	8
9 <b>Children's Day</b> 8:00 am Men's Breakfast 6:30 pm EWCB	10 10 am Music Class 7:00 pm Outreach	11 10:00 am Tai Chi 7:00 pm Jamboree	12 10:00 Study Group 7:30 pm Al-anon	13 10:00 am Tai Chi 7:00 pm Bells	14	15 2:00 pm Wedding
16 <b>Happy Father's Day!</b> <b>Congregational Meeting</b>	17 7:00 pm Society	18 10:00 am Tai Chi 7:00 pm Jamboree	19 10:00 Study Group 12:00 pm LBS Luncheon 7:30 pm Al-anon	20 10:00 am Tai Chi <b>TRUMPET DEADLINE!</b>	21	22
23	24	25 10:00 am Tai Chi 7:00 pm Jamboree	26 10:00 Study Group 7:30 pm Al-anon	27 10:00 am Tai Chi	28	29 12 pm Wedding
30						

Looking Ahead:

July 7: First Summer Union Service at Hill  
(Service begins at 9:00 am)

July 4: 63<sup>rd</sup> Annual Jamboree!

July 9, 11, 15, 17: Vacation Bible Camp



Happy Birthday



The coffee hour in June will be served courtesy of: **LBS**

The coffee hour in August will be served courtesy of: **Council**

June Birthdays:

Rhys Asikainen	June 1
Austin Dilko	June 6
Seamus Morse	June 6
Jackson Santos	June 7
Brenna O'Connor	June 8
Liliana Bottone	June 12
Mason Wolf	June 19
Logan Curtis	June 20
Paige Curtis	June 20
Benjamin Hermonot	June 24

# PRAYER PAGE

*Today and every day let us be open to God, who promises always to be with us.*

## **Father's Day Prayer**

by Maren Tirabassi

God, I'm praying for fathers –  
fathers, up at night with newborns,  
fathers, bent under college debt,  
fathers who are good with one age of child  
and haven't a clue with another.

I'm praying for fathers  
balancing self and home and work  
and parenting,  
especially when no one seems to notice.

I'm praying for fathers of adolescents,  
and for those who are adolescents themselves,  
as well as many who prop up their elbows  
when their hands slip  
on the gift of accountability.

I'm praying for grandfathers and transfathers.  
godfathers and grieving fathers,  
foster fathers and adopting fathers,  
solo fathers and step-fathers,  
fathers-in-law and fathers-in-neighbor,  
more grandfathers –  
tiptoeing around divorce,

and also teachers, pastors,  
coaches, counselors  
who mix a tiny bit of what they know  
from fathering into relationships  
with dozens of children,  
and learn the rhythm to step back.

I'm praying for those living  
with their mistakes as fathers—  
small thoughtlessnesses  
that call for self-forgiveness,  
or deep damage  
needing repentance, transformation.

I'm praying for those who want  
to be fathers,  
and those who have wanted,  
but it never happened.

I'm praying for those who miss their fathers  
because of death or distance,  
deep difference or disappearance.  
and I'm praying those who miss their children  
because of death or distance,  
deep difference or disappearance.

Be a parent to them, O God,  
on this day and all the days of the year.

I am praying for those  
who have been so violated by men  
in relationship to them,  
that the very name "father" is a wound.

Heal them with time and anger,  
memory, love and support.

As we approach this civic day  
with its tangle of knotted emotions,  
draw out for each of us  
from your fathoms of tenderness  
care and strength, for our most intimate needs –  
named here, barely whispered to ourselves,  
or still hidden  
in the cave-rooms of our souls.

Amen.