

WEEKLY GOOD NEWS EMAIL
First Congregational Church of Hanover, Massachusetts
An Open and Affirming Church of the United Church of Christ



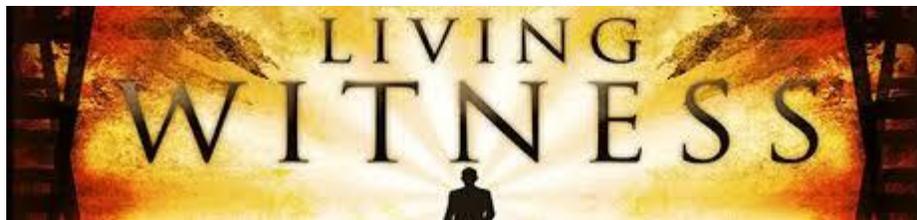
From Pastor Terry
johnterry@fcchanover.org
April 18, 2021
Third Sunday of Easter

Link to the church YouTube home page to get the most recent Sunday service
<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCGOZdozbwpMp1qbJeHbwAaA>

SUNDAY WORSHIP INFORMATION

Scripture Lesson: Luke 24:36b-48

Sermon: *Can I Get a Witness*



PLEASE JOIN US FOR OUR VIRTUAL COFFEE HOUR this Sunday, at 10:30.

<https://zoom.us/j/94497541799?pwd=a2pSSjkxbUs2NIZ6RFZ0dG9XaU9FUT09>

Meeting ID: 944 9754 1799**Passcode:** 738510



CALENDAR

Thursday, April 22 at 7:00 pm: Scholarship Committee

Saturday, April 24 at 8:30 am: Church Cleanup Day

Sunday, May 9 at 9:30 am: Worship resumes in Riley Hall

CELEBRATIONS AND CONCERNS

Please email your celebrations and concerns to John Terry or to the church office.

Simple Joys!

Let's Celebrate: Our beautiful sanctuary altar

Thank you for remembering me with a beautiful Easter lily!
God bless you all! Love, Laura Paine



Prayer
Ministry

Please Pray for:

- Luke Lukoski, undergoing surgery on April 16
- Bud Mosher in hospice
- Nancy Merrifield, daughter of Maddie Thomas, undergoing treatment for Non-Hodgkins Lymphoma.
- Sally Grey, neighbor of Ruth Hall, lung cancer
- Pegge Powers, recovering from a fall
- Susan Alexander
- Giana Conti
- Linda Peterson, cousin of Ginny Hunt, with advancing late-stage Alzheimer's
- Dave Durand, friend of Sandy and Dave Vaughn, with metastatic cancer

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Support The Work of The Social Matters Committee!

We Are Collecting Toiletries for Carolina Hill House in Marshfield.

The Carolina Hill House provides a safe haven for women and children experiencing a family crisis.

They are in need of all types of toiletries such as soaps, shampoo, toothpaste, toothbrushes, etc.

Make A difference! Make A Donation!

Drop off hours at Riley Hall: Tues, Wed, Thurs, and Sat from 10 - 2



SPRING GROUNDS CLEAN-UP

CHURCH CAMPUS SPRING CLEAN-UP DAY IS SATURDAY, APRIL 24TH.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED! Please join us for our annual spring clean-up on April 24th. Stop by between 8:30 and 11:00AM to volunteer to help with a light clean-up of the church campus landscaping and grounds in celebration of Earth Day! Bring a leaf rake and any light gardening tools

you might need. Lawn/leaf bags will be available on site.

OUTREACH AND SERVICE UPDATES



Church World Service Hygiene Kits: The last day to drop off health kits is Saturday, April 24. Karen Tripp will deliver them to the Brockton depot on May 5.

MainSpring: Volunteers are needed to provide a meal for 60 people at the homeless shelter for **Sunday, May 2**. Contact Karen Tripp (trippklt@aol.com) to make arrangements.



ATTACHMENT OF THE WEEK from Don Springhetti

Social Matters

Dear Church Friends,

Here it is April already, a year since we were forced apart by the pandemic. However, in spite of it all, the excitement is building! It is spring, the trees will soon be green again, flowers are in bloom, many of you have already received your COVID vaccine, and the light is almost visible at the end of the tunnel. Soon, let's hope, we will be back together again, with a new pastor and continuing on with God's work into a bright future.

Many people were affected by the pandemic, yet some good has come out of the trials of the past year. We as a Church have figured out new ways to carry on God's work through Zoom meetings, greeting cards and personal calls. The Search Committee has persevered and is now reviewing resumes for our new pastor.

But to me the most exciting thing that has happened, and the reason for this letter, is the formation of the "Social Matters Committee". Due to the past several years of political and social unrest in our country, state, towns and even in our extended families, these members of our Church, of their own volition, stepped up to form this exciting new group. Building on our extensive past Church Outreach and Service programs, the goal of this new committee is to encourage communication, to provide educational opportunities, and to foster better understanding of social and economic issues, such as discrimination, poverty, and the environment that impact the daily lives of all of us here in the church and the wider community.

Better still, the core of this group are the young families in our church, including some of our high school and college-age youth. Think of how many times the "old timers" have stood around at coffee hour and lamented the fact that these younger members do not seem to get involved as much as we did in the "old days"! Well, we have a great core group of young families and youth in our church that have stepped forward to do this work. These are the people that represent the future of our church. If we are to be a relevant and viable church, these are the people that will lead us forward.

In just the few months that they have come together they have supported and encouraged our youth who asked for help in leading the Black Lives Matter rally last summer. They have held dialogues at our church coffee hours on racial issues led by Hanover Selectwoman Vanessa O' Connor, and our own Jamaal Thompson, on Native American issues with Chief "Tom Rising Eagle" Libbey, and last month on gender difference issues in the workplace with Jill Beresford.

Future guests include members of the North and South River Watershed Association and our public safety organizations. The Committee has also provided opportunities for our Church to participate in a real way through charity events that reach out and make a difference in our community.

Thus, the specific reason that I am writing to you. **Please, please, please show your support for the future leaders of our Church. Join us at the weekly coffee hours on Sundays at 10:30 AM and especially on those weeks when there is a guest speaker!**

Likewise, we need your support in making the community projects successful. Look for Committee announcements and participate in these events that reach out into the greater community.

The Committee and the Church need your help, support, and encouragement in this work. When Chief Rising Eagle was with us he told us that the motto of the tribes that he represents is **“Moving into the future....Remembering the past”**. I cannot think of an expression that is more apropos to our situation in FCC Hanover right now. With the help of our great young families and the support of the “old timers”, with a new pastor on the horizon and the pandemic moving to the rear-view mirror, let us move into the future while remembering our long history of doing God’s work.

Feeling the excitement and possibilities, looking forward to seeing all of you soon!

Don Springhetti