

April Link

Then Jesus went with them to a place called Gethsemane; and he said to his disciples, "Sit here while I go over there and pray." He took with him Peter and the two sons of Zebedee, and began to be grieved and agitated. Then he said to them, "I am deeply grieved, even to death; remain here, and stay awake with me."

Matthew 26:36-40

They could not do it- they could not stay awake with Jesus in his hour of need. They could not comfort him in his grief and despair. They, I imagine, tried to but they just could not stay awake.

He did not ask much of them. He knew that the ultimate difficult decision and sacrifice was his alone. But he did have one small request of his disciples: don't let me go through this sacrificial time alone. Stay with me, stay awake so that I know that you, who love me, will be with me, praying with me, supporting me and showing me how very much you love me.

Such a small request and yet, they could not oblige him. They were full of food and wine and after a long week, they simply could not stay awake a moment longer.

Lest we think their excuse of weariness is shallow indeed, perhaps we should examine the depth of our own excuses.

In less than a fortnight, Jesus will be walking to the cross. There he will sacrifice his life, his dignity, his divinity for you. Will he go to the cross alone or will you be there, staying awake, praying with him, loving him and waiting with him.

Yes, we as the disciples, have our reasons: we are busy, we are tired, we are overwhelmed, we are, well fill in the blank with your personal excuses. None will suffice. He only ask that we stay with him. There can be no reason why we would not.

Holy Week will offer many times and places to be with him. Find a time to worship, to pray, to sit quietly with your Lord. Do not let Jesus climb to the cross alone. Come to worship service, pray or read scriptures at home or in a place of quiet. Come to the sanctuary Good Friday and sit and pray, alone with Jesus. He loves you. Love Jesus.

In His Blessed Name,

Pastor Barbara



HOLY WEEK SERVICES

Palm/Passion Sunday

On Palm Sunday, we will begin with the joy of Jesus' entrance into Jerusalem with the celebration of Palms and then continue as he did the week to the recollection of the Passion of Christ.

Holy Thursday

Celebration of the Last Supper at 7 PM with worship, prayers, and hymns

Good Friday Daytime

The sanctuary will be open from Noon until Three, on Good Friday commemorating the traditional hours that Jesus anguished on the cross. You are invited to come and quietly sit and pray, meditate, or simply be present with Our Lord on this Holy Day. A scripture will be shared every half hour beginning at Noon.

Good Friday Evening – 7:00 PM

Celebration of Good Friday with a Tenebrae. Follow the events of the day with readings and music.

Easter Sunrise – 6:00 AM

Come and worship together as the sun rises and the son rises on Easter morning. The resurrection happened in a garden and so we will meet in the memorial garden to welcome the Risen Lord.

Easter Morning

Join us on Easter morning for the glorious celebration of the Resurrection of our Lord. We will come together at 10:00 A.M. for prayers, music, and worship. Invite family, neighbors, and friends to celebrate with us.



A letter from Angela:

Good day my brothers and sisters in Christ. Our administration council met earlier in the month and discussed how wonderful it is to be able to come together again each week for service and coffee hour. Covid has affected and isolated us not only physically but socially, and we have missed being in each other's presence. I am trying to develop a tool that will show special dates in our lives such as birthdays and anniversaries that will be listed in the monthly calendar. As we share our JOYS and CONCERNS each week we'd like to be able to share the joy we feel for having each of you in our church family.

There will be two ways to share this info. I will leave a clipboard with a form in the Narthex, and if you are attending service in person please share any special dates you would be comfortable recognizing (birth date and anniversary). If you are not attending service in-person feel free to email the info to Re -pvumc181@gmail.com- and she will pass it on to me.

Wishing you all peace and reflection during this time of renewal.

Angela Root

Church Dinner

North Canton United Methodist Church

3 Case Street, Canton

April 1, 2022

Dinner from 5-7pm. Take out or sit down. Lasagna (meat, veg, or gluten free) w/ salad rolls, and heavenly dessert including microbatch vanilla ice cream (from the Canton Creamery). \$13/pp.

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News from the Connecticut District

2022 CT DISTRICT CONFERENCE VIA ZOOM

SAVE THE DATE!!

Sunday May 1, 2022

3:30 PM

Connecticut District

2022 Virtual Lay Servant School via Zoom

BASIC COURSE

Registration is now open!

5 Saturday Class Sessions Required

The dates are as follows:

April 23, April 30th, May 14th, May 21st and May 28th

9am - 11am

Winsted United Methodist Church is planning a dedication of their new space on June 4 at 4:00 pm. They are now meeting at St. Andrew's Masonic Lodge, 27-Wheeler Street in Winsted. Please plan on joining them to celebrate this new phase in their church life. Also, on April 3 beginning around 1:00, Winsted is looking for help to clean out their historic Main Street building. Many hands and trucks are welcome.

Gospels for April

April 3: John 12:1-8

April 10: Luke 22:14-23:56, Luke 23:1-49

April 17: John 20:1-18

April 24: John 20:19-31

April Schedule

****We are holding back on the schedules until we know more about when and how services will resume in person. However, if you'd like to do something please reach out to Pastor Barbara at barb_drew@hotmail.com**

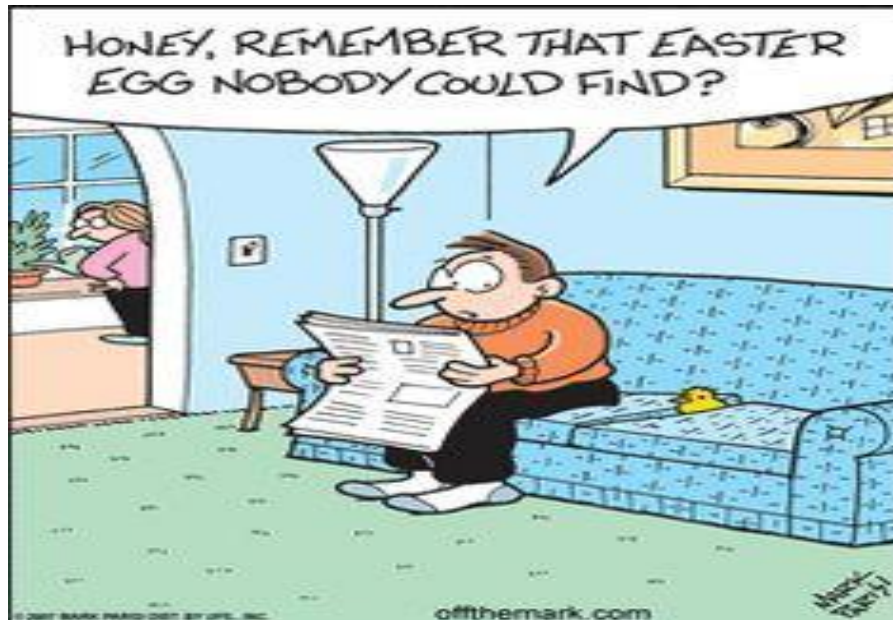
April 3 April 10 April 17 April 24	<u>Nursery Care</u>	<u>Cleaners</u>	<u>Ushers</u> Barbara Sherwin & Shirley Green Bonnie & Darlene Slater Dawn Renfrew & Shelley Bailey Steven Shaw & Judy McKay
April 3 April 10 April 17 April 24	<u>Greeters</u>	<u>Lectors</u> Suzanne Gerber Janet LaGrange Jonah Hurley Tom Lucas	<u>Coffee Hour</u>
April 3 April 10 April 17 April 24	<u>Acolytes</u>	<u>Children's Message</u>	

****Because of the COVID-19 virus all meetings and Church Schedules are tentative. Please call or email me to confirm.**

April

<u>SUN.</u>	<u>MON.</u>	<u>TUES.</u>	<u>WED.</u>	<u>THUS.</u>	<u>FRI.</u>	<u>SAT.</u>
					1 APRIL FOOL'S DAY	2 8:00AM - UMM
3 10:00AM Worship Service with Holy Communion	4	5 10:00AM Prayer Group 7:00PM Trustees Meeting 8:00PM AA	6	7 6:45PM AA	8	9
10 10:00AM Worship Service 	11 6:00 – 8:00PM Food Bank	12 10:00AM Prayer Group 7:00PM Admin./Finance Meeting 8:00PM AA	13	14 2:00 – 4:00PM Food Bank 6:45PM AA 7:00PM Celebration of the Last Supper	15 7:00PM Service 	16
17 6:00AM – Sunrise Service 10:00AMEaster Worship Service 	18	19 10:00AM Prayer Group 8:00PM AA	20	21 6:45PM AA	22	23
24 10:00AM Worship Service	25 6:00 – 8:00PM Food Bank	26 10:00AM Prayer Group 8:00PM AA	27	28 2:00 – 4:00PM Food Bank 6:45PM AA	29	30

Church Humor:



Marty, a little boy, was in church one Easter Sunday with his mother Doris, when he started feeling sick.

'Mummy,' he inquired, 'can we leave now?'

'No,' his mother replied, 'the service isn't over yet.'

'Well, I think I'm about to throw up,' Marty announced. 'Then go out of the front door and around to the back of the church and throw up behind a bush,' said Doris.

After about sixty seconds, Marty returned to his pew, alongside his mother.

'Did you throw up?' Marty's Mum asked quietly. 'Yes,' Marty answered, embarrassed.

'How could you have gone all the way to the back of the church and returned so quickly?' Doris demanded.

'I didn't have to go out of the church, Mummy. They have a box next to the front door that says, "For the Sick".'

Young Ernie and his family were invited to have Easter Sunday lunch at his grandmother's house in Monkey's Eyebrow, Arizona. USA. Everyone was seated around the table as the food was being served. When Ernie received his plate he started eating straight away.

'Ernie, wait until we say grace,' demanded his father.

'I don't have to,' the five year old replied.

'Of course you do, Ernest,' his mother insisted rather forcefully. 'We always say a prayer before eating at our house.'

'That's at our house,' Ernie explained, 'but this is Grandma's house, and she knows how to cook.'

April Announcements

It is with great pleasure and gratitude that we announce that we applied for, and have received, a grant of \$15,000 from the town of Barkhamsted from the American Rescue Plan Funding program. This money will greatly aid our church in replacing the funds we were unable to raise during the pandemic. Our sincere thanks go to all those folks who helped with the application process, and to those who saw the value in supporting our church through these difficult times.

Torrington First United Methodist Church presents:

LET THERE BE PEACE ON EARTH

Concert to benefit Ukraine

Friday, April 1st at 7 pm

Join us in the sanctuary for a concert of beautiful music

*Checks for the benefit concert can be sent to First United Methodist of Torrington,
payable to: FUMC * In the memo section, put 'UKRAINE'.*

<Wearing masks is optional since Torrington is not in the Red COVID-19 status>

Children's Message

If you would like to volunteer to give a Children message during worship, or if you would like to volunteer to be a liturgist (Reader) let Pastor Barbara know.

Church office hours are Monday, Tuesday, and Friday from 9:00AM to Noon. If there is a Monday holiday, office hours for that week will be Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday from 9:00AM to Noon.

Pastor Barbara will be in the office Monday and Tuesday from 9:30AM to 1:00PM, or by appointment.

Church contact info:

Visit us online at: pleasantvalleyumc.com

Church Office: 860-379-2157

Church Kitchen and Food Bank: 860-379-0346

Church email address: pvumc181@gmail.com

Pastor Barbara's email: barb_drew@hotmail.com

Pastor Barbara's phone number: 203-623-3754