

hands & feet

A monthly newsletter of the Webster United Church of Christ, Federated

Mark Your Calendar

Tuesdays 6:30pm Small Group
"Bible 101"

Saturday, May 10
Spring Tea

Sunday, May 11
Mother's Day and Blessing of
Teen Mother Baby Drive

Sunday, May 25
after worship
Monthly brunch and
birthday celebration

Happy Mother's Day

"She is clothed with strength and
dignity; she can laugh at the days
to come. She speaks with wisdom,
and faithful instruction is on her
tongue." PROVERBS 31:25-26



EDITORIAL

Dear friends in Christ,

We just celebrated Easter, the most important Church holiday of the year. It's the day we celebrate the resurrection of Jesus Christ as well as being raised to new life in Him! As Easter has become more and more commercialized, it's easy to focus on just one day. There's the build-up with Easter eggs, Peeps (of course!), Easter baskets, new clothes, the family Easter dinner.... and then it's over—the only thing left is to eat all that candy! But what about the new life I am raised to with Christ because of Easter? Shouldn't there be something more than candy, especially after the candy's gone? What does that new life mean when my life looks the same as it did before Easter?

Perhaps sometimes we make it all too hard, we think that we have to find 'the magic' and there must be something we are missing if we don't 'feel' like a new person. The passage from Colossians helps us to understand this 'new life' when it says "*Think about the things of heaven, not the things of earth, for you died to this life and your real life is hidden with Christ in God.*" New life comes with new perspective, a life that first looks to things of heaven instead of things of the earth. "Dying to this life" is the realization that 'this isn't all there is.' God provides the way to new life for all of us through the life, death and resurrection of Jesus. New life starts now! The old life, the old way of thinking, the old way of doing things is gone.

(continued on page 2)

MAY 2025 EDITION

God raised him up, loosing the pangs of death, because it was not possible for him to be held by it. — Acts 2:24



EDITORIAL (conclusion)

We all encounter experiences of our lives and our relationships through a particular ‘world view.’ The world view generally begins with ‘How I feel,’ ‘What I want,’ ‘What I believe my rights are,’ ‘Am I comfortable,’ and ‘What I want to do.’ Often that’s where we start. But, in our new life we are invited to encounter our experiences and relationships first through ‘heaven’s view.’ ‘I am a witness to God’s love,’ ‘I am forgiven by God,’ ‘I want what is good for all of God’s children,’ ‘God will strengthen me when I am challenged,’ ‘God will guide me to do his will.’

When we are hurt, instead of revenge we offer forgiveness. When we hurt others, instead of defending poor behavior we humbly seek forgiveness. When circumstances challenge us, instead of ‘Why me God?’ we start with ‘God, what can I learn?’ When we fail, instead of placing blame elsewhere, we pray for God’s guidance. When we feel shame or guilt, instead of muddling around in the pit, we lift our heads and say “Thank-you God for loving me, showing me a new way and believing I can do better.” Starting from a ‘heaven view’ we will offer to others as well as experience for ourselves gifts of grace, compassion, kindness, love, joy, peace of heart, the satisfaction of serving, reconciliation and more.

Contrast that to what the ‘world’s view’ often leads to: cynicism, stress, anger, anxiety, revenge, worry, fear of loss, competitiveness and more. Which would you choose? There has to be more than what the ‘old life’ offers and it is found in new life in Christ. It’s living with a ‘heaven view’ of what God desires for this world and our part to make that happen.

New life is believing that God’s way is better than all that the world can offer. New life is believing that you are a new person in Christ who can choose God’s way. New life is seeing your experiences and your relationships through the love of God who desires that you live your life to the fullest and in joy!

We are Easter people. We are resurrection people. Not only on Easter, but everyday. Because the new life Christ gives to us is available each and everyday.

So, Easter Blessings to You and Yours!

In Christ,

Pastor Sabina



Date	Scripture	Sermon
05/04	John 21:1-19	“Resurrection is Always Found in the Details”
05/11 Mother’s Day	Acts 9:36-43	“Women of the Cloth”
05/18	Ephesians 6:10-18	Sermon Series: “God in the Movies” “Jedi or Sith?”
05/25	Esther 2:5-9	Sermon Series: “God in the Movies” “A Cinderella Story”
06/01	John 20:19-31	Sermon Series: “God in the Movies” “French Beatitudes”

Verse of the Month

I praise you because
I am fearfully and
wonderfully made.

PSALM 139:14



PRAYER OF THE MONTH

Lord Jesus, as we celebrate Your resurrection, help us seek to resurrect the deadness of our lives. Thank You that You died for me, rose again, and will return. Amen.



A New Sermon Series!

This new sermon series starting on May 18 explores how biblical truths and God's redemptive story can be found within popular movies and their themes.

Coming up at a theater new you!!



Bible Study Group

05/03: 1 and 2 Kings

05/10: 1 and 2 Chronicles

Please drop by any Tuesday! 6:30pm.



Palm Sunday 2025

COMING UP!!

May 25th: Memorial Day Sunday

June 8th: Pentecost

June 14:

Father's Day Brunch, featuring the Pulaski Brass Band

July 3:

4th of July BBQ / Feed My Sheep

Spring Tea

**Saturday, May 10th, 2025
12:30pm**

*Join us for a wonderful experience
including:*

A variety of finger foods
(assorted sandwiches, homemade pastries,
scones with clotted cream...)
and, of course, teas (and beverages)!

Gift basket raffle

Spring hat contest with prizes
(adults and children are all invited to participate!)

Tickets are \$20
(advance purchase only,
raffle tickets not included).
All proceeds will benefit our
Feed my Sheep
free meal ministry on Thursdays at 5pm!



United Church of Christ, Federated
4 Church Street, Webster, MA

Please contact Gayle Bannister at 774-200-8988
or email gaylebannister@yahoo.com
for information or to purchase tickets.

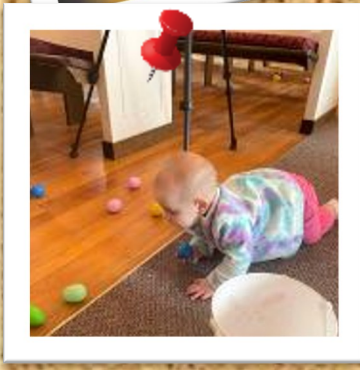
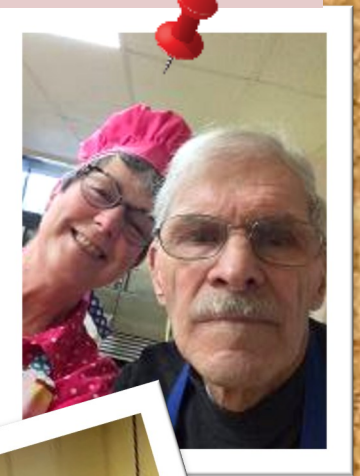


EVENTS at the United Church of Christ, Federated

Mardi Gras
Pancake Dinner



Bunny Brunch



Holy Week at the United Church of Christ, Federated

Messianic Passover Seder



Elijah's Cup and plate with traditional Haggadah



Traditional Seder plate and elements



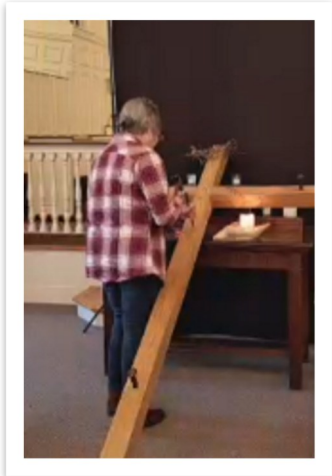
Pastor Sabina lighting the candles



Urchatz: Traditional handwashing

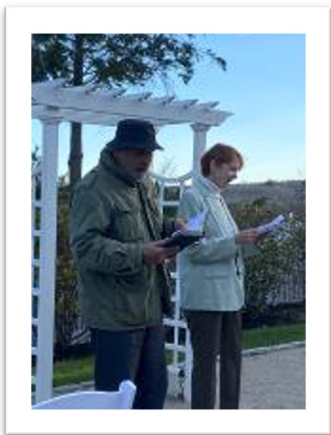
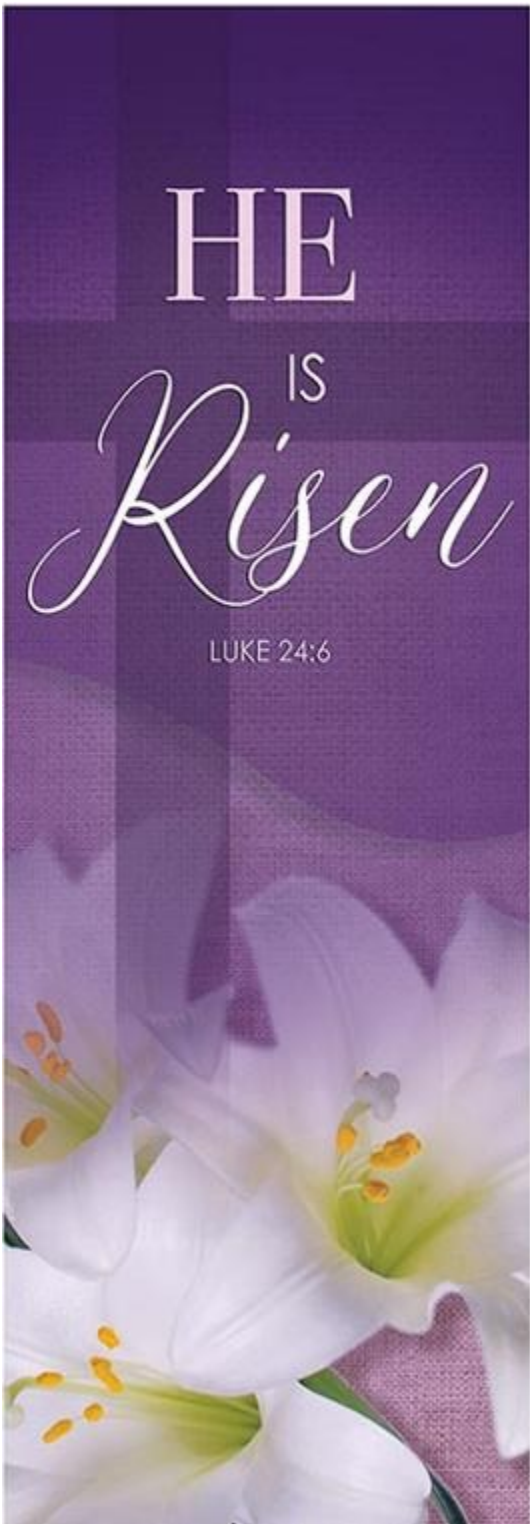


פסח



GOOD FRIDAY

A man who was completely innocent, offered himself as a sacrifice for the good of others, including his enemies, and became the ransom of the world. It was a perfect act - Mahatma Gandhi



Sunrise Service at Point Breeze on Webster Lake



The great gift of Easter is hope - Christian hope which makes us have that confidence in God, in his ultimate triumph, and in his goodness and love, which nothing can shake.

Basil Hume



CALLING ALL KNITTERS & CROCHETERS!

We need your talented hands to create prayer shawls, either knitted or crocheted. We will be starting from scratch so I am looking for those that would be interested in joining. We can then determine a day and time to meet that would work for the majority.

Please see me after church or contact me at 508-943-8984 to let me know your interest in joining this team. Thank you, Linda Kruzewski.

United Church of Christ, Federated

"Come as you are, we mean it!"

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A monthly newsletter of the Webster United Church of Christ Federated

OFFICE HOURS: Tuesday through Friday, 9:30-1, or by appointment

WORSHIP: Sundays at 10, in person and live on Facebook

BIBLE STUDY / SMALL GROUPS: Tuesdays at 6:30 (free dinner at 6)

THREADS OF HOPE (free clothing, hygiene products,...): Tuesdays and Thursdays, 9-11,
Thursdays 4-7, 1st Sunday of the month, 12-3

FEED MY SHEEP FREE MEAL MINISTRY: Thursdays, 5

GOLDEN BEES SLEEPING BAG MINISTRY: Mondays, 9-12

OUTDOOR FOOD PANTRY: Ongoing