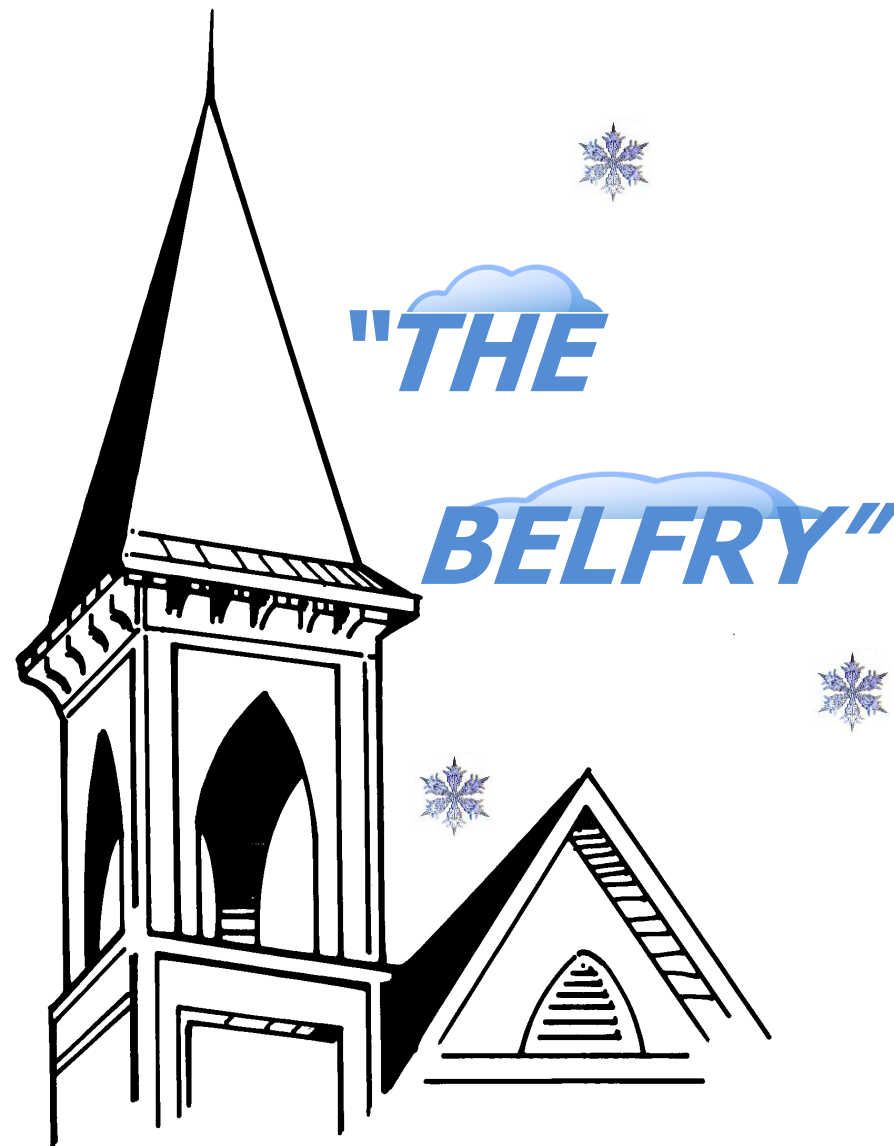




2018



**HUNTINGTON CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, UCC**

19 Church Street

Shelton, Connecticut 06484

*The Rev. Lucille L. Fritz, Pastor*

*James T. Bruni, Minister of Music*

*Kirsten E. Keith, Director of Christian Education*

*Karen S. Boroski, Editor/Office Manager*

**Phone - 203.929.1223**

**Website: [www.huntingtonucc.org](http://www.huntingtonucc.org)**

**E-mail: [hcc@snet.net](mailto:hcc@snet.net)**

## ***FROM OUR PASTOR...***

Dear Folks,

And people say that God does not have a sense of humor: For 2018, Ash Wednesday is on February 14, Valentine's Day. If that isn't enough, Easter is on April 1, April Fool's Day.



I really feel that is quirk of the calendar is just a reminder of both the great love and great joy that God gives us at each moment. Being a Christian isn't about being staid and solemn. It's about living acknowledging God's extravagant blessings with laughter and excitement. It's about being extravagant in return with our love and our joy, our generosity and our faithfulness.

Often, the Season of Lent is seen as a time of sadness and seriousness, but, when we are faced with the abundant joy and unconditional love that God bestows on us, how can we not rejoice? May these 40 days of Lent be a time of reflecting on God's place in our lives and reflecting God's presence back into the world with love and joy.

In Christ's love,  
Rev. Lucille



### **ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE February 14**

The 2018 Ash Wednesday Service will be held on February 14, 7 P.M. at the Huntington United Methodist Church. All are invited!

**THE 294<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL MEETING OF THE  
HUNTINGTON CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, UCC  
WILL BE HELD IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING  
THE MORNING WORSHIP SERVICE  
ON SUNDAY, JANUARY 21, 2018  
FOR THE PURPOSE OF ELECTING OFFICERS,  
ACCEPTING THE 2018 BUDGET.**

**SNOWDATE: SUNDAY, JANUARY 28, 2018**

**To HCCUCC Members:**

**The Annual Report was emailed on Tuesday, January 16<sup>th</sup>.  
If you did not receive yours & would like one before  
Sunday, 1/21, please call the office (203-929-1223).**

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### ***TO ALL OUTGOING COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS***

If you have a key to the church building(s), please pass it along to the incoming chairperson on that committee or turn it into the church office. Thank you for your cooperation.

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## **CHURCH COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS**

### **JANUARY 2018**

**TRUSTEES:** completed couple of boiler room projects – changing out thermostat in boiler room and stepped up the exterminating process.

**CHRISTIAN ED:** Having pancake breakfast in February. Vacation bible school materials are in. Were able to order early to receive discount.

**DEACON:** Two excellent Christmas Eve services at 11 a.m. & 11 p.m. Aloha service on New Year's Eve day well attended. Lent begins February 14<sup>th</sup> & Easter Sunday April 1<sup>st</sup>.

**NOMINATING:** Presented draft of nominating slate for 2018. One opening on Christian Ed. Endowment Committee needs to be updated. Laura will appoint members. Bob Sember and Royal will need to be replaced and she will ask Ray if he would stay on for a transition year for the new members.

**NURSERY SCHOOL:** Held coat drive. Toys for Tots and Santa paid a visit to both classes.

**MISSIONS:** Missions meeting in March. Spooner House meals are filling up nicely.

**WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP:** Board meeting postponed due to weather. Will hold WF annual meeting Sunday, January 14<sup>th</sup> for election of officers and voting on proposed budget. Rebecca Miller offering to do seminar on new tax changes the end of February. Sue Lindley stated they will host that program.

**MINISTER:** She & Karen having major computer issues after a Windows 10 automatic update. Will need someone come to correct. Annual report will be emailed out on January 15<sup>th</sup>. If you want a printed copy, please call office. Budget will be sent out few days later. Jim Latimer, UCC pastor and Doctor of Ministry Candidate, is offering a program to look at committee structuring. Would like to participate. He will act as our consultant. Pastoral Relations will meet at Fassbender's on January 16<sup>th</sup>. Rob Liddel & Katie Hamlin's wedding January 19 at 1:00 p.m. February 18<sup>th</sup> Corrone family will

have son baptized. Ash Wednesday February 14<sup>th</sup>, Easter April 1<sup>st</sup>. Quiet Hour begins February 14<sup>th</sup> for 6 weeks.

**MODERATOR:** All in order for annual meeting on the 21<sup>st</sup>. Endowment Committee meeting went well. Bob Sember expressed concern -- people may be relying on sale of property, which is not a done deal. People must realize they still need to contribute as the property sale will not solve all our issues even if it does go through, which is not a given. Sue Lindley and Lin Mulford, Church Historian, are meeting on a regular basis to put the important historical items in order. Lucille said the church will do special collections to raise money and Fairfield East is offering grants for projects that we may be able to qualify for. Deadline is June 6, 2018. Bob Sember willing to talk with Jim Watson of Milford Photo. They do archiving. He will ask him about preserving Pastors portraits in a book that members would be able to view.

~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~  
*Rev. Lucille's prayer days will be on Thursdays,  
February 15<sup>th</sup>, March 15<sup>th</sup>, and April 19<sup>th</sup>. Please let her know if  
you have a prayer concern you would like her to lift-up.*  
~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~

## **FAITH PROMISE CARDS**

**It's not too late to submit your 2018 Faith Promise (Pledge) Card.** Cards can be found on the cabinet in the alcove. If you have not returned your pledge card, please do so as soon as possible. Thank you for your generosity!



## HUNTINGTON CENTER NURSERY SCHOOL

Register now for the 2018/2019 school year

Huntington Center Nursery School is accepting registrations in December for the 2018-2019 school year for 3 & 4 yr. olds. We offer half day and extended day programs and additionally a before school program. If you are, or know of someone who is interested in this wonderful program please contact our Director, Linda Rizzitelli at 203-929-7197 for more information. H.C.N.S. is open to the public.



### OUR SPECIAL VISITOR



The Huntington Center Nursery School will be holding its annual Butter Braid fundraiser beginning in March. Items will be Braided Pastry & Crisps. Order forms will be available after Sunday worship in Fellowship Hall on March 4<sup>th</sup> and orders are due by March 11<sup>th</sup>.

Your support is always appreciated.

## MARDI GRAS PANCAKE AND GAME BREAKFAST

Ya'll come on Sunday, February 11<sup>th</sup> following the church service for some delicious pancakes, sausage, juice and coffee. We will also be playing Pictionary!!!

There will be a free will offering to help fund our Sunday School.



*Ash Wednesday is February 14<sup>th</sup>. Service will be held at the Huntington United Methodist Church, 338 Walnut Tree Hill Road at 7 p.m. All are welcome.*



**Wednesday Lenten Services** will begin with a dinner at 6 p.m. provided by the host church, followed by the worship service at 7 p.m. The offering will benefit Spooner House.

Please make checks payable to: Shelton Clergy Association.

February 21<sup>st</sup> First United Methodist Church of Shelton  
188 Rocky Rest Road – *Rev. Lucille Fritz*

February 28<sup>th</sup> Huntington Congregational Church, UCC  
19 Church Street



Calling all women of Huntington Congregational Church, UCC – Women's Fellowship is kicking off our new year, 2018, and we would love to have you join us. We have restructured our group a bit. We now have one Women's Circle. The group formally meets the third Wednesday night of each month, and informally most Wednesdays in June, July and August. At our regular monthly meetings we do various activities – sometimes charity work, sometimes discussions and/or projects. During the summer months we meet work on crafts for our Pumpkin and Holly Fair. In addition, we also serve our annual Corned Beef and Cabbage Dinner on a Sunday night in March, we host a community tag sale in June and work on other church projects throughout the year! Please come and join us – we have something for everyone. Watch for upcoming events in the weekly bulletin and the Belfry. Bring a friend – you do not need to be a member of HCCUCC to join in the fun!

### LENTEN QUIET HOUR

All women of the church are invited, at no cost, to attend our annual six-week Quiet Hour sessions, beginning on **Ash Wednesday, February 14<sup>th</sup> at 10 a.m.** in the church library. We will be continuing the book, “SIMPLE WAYS TOWARDS THE SACRED” by Gunilla Norris. The discussion will be led by Rev. Lucille. The sign-up sheet is located in the alcove or call the church office (203-929-1223).



CHURCH WORLD SERVICE

Back in April 2017, we delivered to United Congregational Church in Bridgeport – 25 boxes filled with Baby and Hygiene kits and Book Bags that were picked up for delivery to our Church World Service depot in Maryland. Our donations include the following: 50 school kits, 150 health kits and 85 baby kits.

But the job did not start there. It began with our Women's Fellowship Circles and our very generous church members and friends that made our mission project so successful.

As we begin another year, we are already preparing for our Gifts of the Heart project and we are in need of your help.

We will be collecting the following items to fill these kits during February and March until April 8<sup>th</sup>. Your gifts can be left in the CWS box or Women's Fellowship box in our Fellowship Hall. All kits will be packed by April.

#### School Kits:

- |                               |                              |
|-------------------------------|------------------------------|
| ~ blunt scissors              | ~ Box 24 crayons (only 24)   |
| ~ Pencil sharpeners-hand held | ~ Spiral notebooks-70 sheets |
| ~ 12 inch rulers              | ~ New Pencils w/erasers      |
| ~ Large eraser                |                              |

#### Hygiene Kits:

- |                                    |                 |
|------------------------------------|-----------------|
| ~ Combs (wide tooth only)          |                 |
| ~ Bath size soap in wrapper        | ~ Nail clippers |
| ~ 3" Band-aids                     | ~ Washcloths    |
| ~ Toothbrushes in original package | ~ Hand towels   |

Many thanks for your donations and continued support of this project. Please call Laura Salvio (203-925-0756) with any questions.



## **Credit Card Giving is available at HCCUCC**

We thank everyone who has supported **Huntington Congregational Church UCC** in 2017 with their time, talent and financial contributions. We look forward to continued support from all of our members in 2018. If you need a convenient way to make regular offerings, we encourage you to check out our electronic giving options. As the pace of life speeds up, you may find electronic giving an easy and convenient way to make your contributions to HCCUCC. Visit [www.hungtingtonucc.org](http://www.hungtingtonucc.org) or contact the church office for more information.

**Reminder:** Please submit your UCC/FEA dues of \$12 per church member by March 1 to offset the cost for 2018. This can be done by mail or through our website on-line giving. Thank you for your continued support and faithfulness.



The 30<sup>th</sup> Annual Bowl-2-Benefit The Umbrella Center for Domestic Violence Services will be held on Saturday, March 10<sup>th</sup> at Bowlero, 1717 Boston Post Road, Milford.

If you wish to join our Team or would like to make a donation, please see Judy Tucker, Gordon Harris or Rev. Lucille.

## **DID YOU KNOW?**

Women's Sunday at HCCUCC is celebrated in February. From our historical records we found that during WWII the Ladies Aid Society more than did their part. From the 1943-44 Ladies Aid Society annual report, this excerpt appeared:

*"Because of the of the war, it has been a different year from those in the past. Rationing made it difficult for suppers and luncheons to be served to the public. Money had to be earned and so other means were found to get it. 'Silent Susan' was put to work, under the capable management of Mrs. Philip Woods who helped 'Susan' to earn more than \$80 for the year. We had a waist measurement event in which 1 cent was placed in the small pocket of a small apron for each inch one's waist measured. The 'Plump' ladies were at a disadvantage in this event having to pay more than the nice 'lean' ladies and those with 'Wasp' waists. We are very anxious to have the men folk try this way of saving money."*

Interesting how things have evolved!

**We will begin the NEW YEAR**  
**with the beginning of a new Prayer List.**  
**If you would like someone listed or relisted,**  
**please contact the office or put your request**  
**into the offering plate. Please print legibly.**

**Thank you.**

*Birthday Greetings to the following who will celebrate during the month of February:*



- 4 Nicholas Verdicchio
- 6 Diane Wehger
- 7 Ginger Clarke, Jasmine Leung
- 8 Lucy McCarthy, Debbie Grisgraber
- 12 Barbara Henschel
- 15 Laura Salvio
- 16 Ken Tober
- 20 Nicole Dutkanicz, Emma Verdicchio
- 23 Joan Bloemen, Emma Boroski
- 24 Scarlett Taylor
- 27 Brad Wells

**Congratulations to the following couples who will celebrate wedding anniversaries in February:**

- 1 Holly & Gerry Fassbender
- 16 Rebecca & Nicholas Verdicchio
- 25 Barbara & Walter Henderson
- 27 Katrina & Noel Corcino









**CHURCH CANCELLATION:** When inclement weather occurs, these methods will be used: A mass email will be sent to members; Channel 8 – TV or on their website [www.wtnh.com](http://www.wtnh.com); Channel 3 – TV or on their website [www.wfsb.com](http://www.wfsb.com).

**The Belfry Article Deadline for the March 2018 issue is February 16<sup>th</sup>.**

| Prayer List  |                    |
|--|--------------------|
| <b>Minister</b><br><b>Rev. Lucille L. Fritz</b>  |                    |
| <i>Minister of Music</i><br>James T. Bruni   |                    |
| <i>Director of</i><br><i>Christian Education</i><br>Kirsten E. Keith                             |                    |
| <i>Moderator</i><br>Laura Salvio   |                    |
| <i>Deacon Co-Chairs</i><br>Justine Connery/<br>Gail Schoennagel                                  |                    |
| <i>Trustee Co-Chairs</i><br>Bob Sember/<br>Ed Zinsky   |                    |
| <i>Women's Fellowship</i><br><i>President</i><br>Sue Lindley                                     |                    |
| <i>Huntington Center</i><br><i>Nursery School</i><br><i>Director/Teacher</i><br>Linda Rizzitelli |                    |
| 9:30 am<br><i>Sunday Worship/<br/>Sunday School<br/>&amp; Child Care</i>                         |                    |
| <i>Office Manager/<br/>Belfry Editor</i><br>Karen S. Boroski                                     |                    |
| Marion Fairbanks   | Gertrude Wilson    |
| Arlene & Steve Grey  | Barbara Grisgraber |
| Ruth Johnston  | Lydia Fritz        |
| Danny Schmitt  | Muriel Csire       |
| James Margolies  | Mary Glynn         |
| Tom Taylor   | Roger Friend       |
| Barbara Parrelli   | Don McEwen         |
| Chris Schoennagel  | Sam Mulford        |
| Barbara Parrelli   | Elaine Dalton      |
| Dolores Vecchione  | Bruce Bickley      |
| Amy Brandt   | Jeff Hukill        |
| Karen Brown  | Wayne & Maureen    |
| Bobby Saddler  | Vincent Ragusa     |
| Lindsay Provenzano   | Anne Pocevic       |
| Chek   | Don Jensen         |
| Shelia Klein   | Ruth Johnston      |
| Gail Pivarnik  |                    |

# February 2018

| SUNDAY   | MONDAY   | TUESDAY                            | WEDNESDAY   | THURSDAY  | FRIDAY  | SATURDAY                                       |
|--|--|------------------------------------|---|---|---|--|
|  |  |                                    |   | 1<br><br>6pm-TOPS-library<br>7:15pm-Choir                   | 2   | 3 8am- Yoga<br><br>12-4pm-Jill -FH & classroom |
| 4<br><br>9:30am- Holy Communion Worship/ Child Care  | 5  | 6<br><br>7pm-Trustees meeting      | 7<br><br>Troop 101-FH   | 8<br><br>6pm-TOPS-library<br>7:15pm-Choir                   | 9<br><br><br><b>SPOONER HOUSE MEAL</b><br>Holly Fassbender | 10<br><br>8am- Yoga                            |
| 11 <b>Women's Sunday</b><br><br>9:30am-Worship/ Sunday School/ Child Care<br>10:30am-Pancake Breakfast | 12<br><br>7pm-WF Ex. Brd meeting - library   | 13<br><br>7pm-Council meeting      | 14<br><br>10am – Quiet Hour <br><br>7pm-Service @ HUMC | 15 Rev's Prayer Day<br><br>6pm-TOPS-library<br>7:15pm-Choir | 16  | 17<br><br>8am- Yoga                            |
| 18<br><br>9:30am-Worship-Baptism/Child Care<br>12:30pm-FH usage  | 19<br><br><br><b>PRESIDENTS DAY</b> | 20                                 | 21<br><br>10am – Quiet Hour <br>6pm-Lenten Supper<br>7pm-Service- FSUMC<br>7:30pm-WF--FH  | 22<br><br>6pm-TOPS-library<br>7:15pm-Choir                  | 23  | 24<br><br>8am- Yoga                            |
| 25<br><br>9:30am- Worship/ Sunday School/Child Care  | 26   | 27<br><br>7:15pm-Diaconate meeting | 28<br><br>10am – Quiet Hour <br>6pm-Lenten Supper-HCC<br>7pm-Service   |   |   |  |

You may view the Belfry & Calendar on our website - [huntingtonucc.org](http://huntingtonucc.org)