

THE CORNERSTONE - APRIL 2022

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P.O. Box 206 – 252 Main Street – Warren, Maine 04864 – (207) 273-2338

Rev. Bette - revbette.sccw@tds.net - Office Administrator: office.sccw@tds.net - Treasurer: treasurer.sccw@tds.net

PASTOR'S PAGE

“To what purpose, April, do you return again? Beauty is not enough. You can no longer quiet me with the redness of little leaves opening stickily. I know what I know.....” thus begins the poem “Spring” by Irene’s relative, Edna St. Vincent Millay. Perhaps beauty IS enough!? That’s for each of us to decide.



Speaking of DECISIONS, the very word “decide” comes from the Latin word **decidere**, which means to cut off or cut away (think excision, a cutting out or incision, cutting into). When we make a decision (a cutting off), we have considered various things and our minds have come to a resolution. Out of all these many options, we choose THIS ONE, and cut out the other choices. Part of making good decisions, that is, choices that affirm life and move us forward, is knowing which things to cut out or off, and which to keep. This is where **spiritual discernment** comes in. Discernment is the ability to see and perceive the difference between things. One might practice good discernment before making a decision. Spiritual discernment is when we ask the Holy Spirit to guide our decisions, to help us see all sides and weigh them carefully, looking for and perceiving the one true decision that is the right one. It takes practice. It takes prayer. It takes trusting in God’s Spirit of guidance and truth. Jesus was able to discern quickly when approached with a question, or presented with a challenge before him. He was able to do this easily because Jesus aligned himself with God’s Spirit of righteousness and judgment. He had the Spirit always with him and through him, so that discernment was not just second nature, but was his very nature. One way we can begin to practice discernment in a spiritual sense, to help us in our everyday lives, is to know the difference, that is, PERCEIVE and decide to **respond** to a situation or remark or event, rather than **react**. It takes practice and it takes patience. But we need only rely on God for the power to do this. Most of the time when someone has regrets or remorse about an action, behavior or words they’ve said in anger, it’s because s/he REACTED out of emotion, and did not *carefully respond* out of a discerning attitude. As we come to the last few weeks of our Lenten journey, may we have reflected on changes we might want to make in our spiritual/religious practice. We might truly “turn around” (repent) and try something different. If what we are doing and living isn’t working well, and we are not feeling an abundance and well-being in life, perhaps we can discern the difference, make the decision, and cut out the things that aren’t working, and opt for something that will work. This is how we grow as Christians; this is how we find peace, joy and sense of Spirit-filled life. In making changes toward improvement, we “cut out” the dead branches, a pruning, and allow room for new growth and fresh life. Easter is about NEW LIFE and ABUNDANCE. Are you ready?

Pastor Bette



This **Prayer List** is provided to encourage you to keep these special people in your prayers during the week. **If you know an individual you would like added to this list, please talk with the person and get their permission** (*in some instances we know that this may not be possible*).

GOD'S PRAYERS

Betty Collins
Larry Scott by Melody
Beverly's sister Judy
Connie Heath
Robin's daughter Melissa
Dr. Jay Allen by Sterling
Bill Cutting
Susan Flaherty by Gayle
Pat's niece Theresa
Debby Demars by Robin Q.

Stuart Mank
David Chase
Jackie Gushee by Tina
Brenda King's sister Barbara
Bill Meservey by Heather
Lorraine Strout by Linda K.
Wayne Quinn by Robin
Conner Greeman by Patty Ott
Ralph Bond
The Lanphier's son Nathan

The Gamage family
Vella Smith
Sherry Ladd
Carol Verdini by Margaret
Bob by Sharon Smalley
Linda Lent
Robin Quinn
Russ & Sandy Lufkin
Gary by Diana Dare
Carol Hall-Perry by Carole Starr



April 04 Angela Field
April 10 Haley Mank
April 14 Addy Ruggieri
April 14 Marcia Cifaldo
April 17 Linda Lent
April 22 Susan Lombardo
April 28 Marvin Lewis



April 18 David & Gayle White
April 18 Frank & Debbie Collemer
April 25 David & Sharon Landry
April 30 Gerald & Evelyn Anderson



Just a reminder, the **Celebration of Life for James Bond** will be held on Saturday, May 21st at Hall's Funeral Home in Waldoboro.

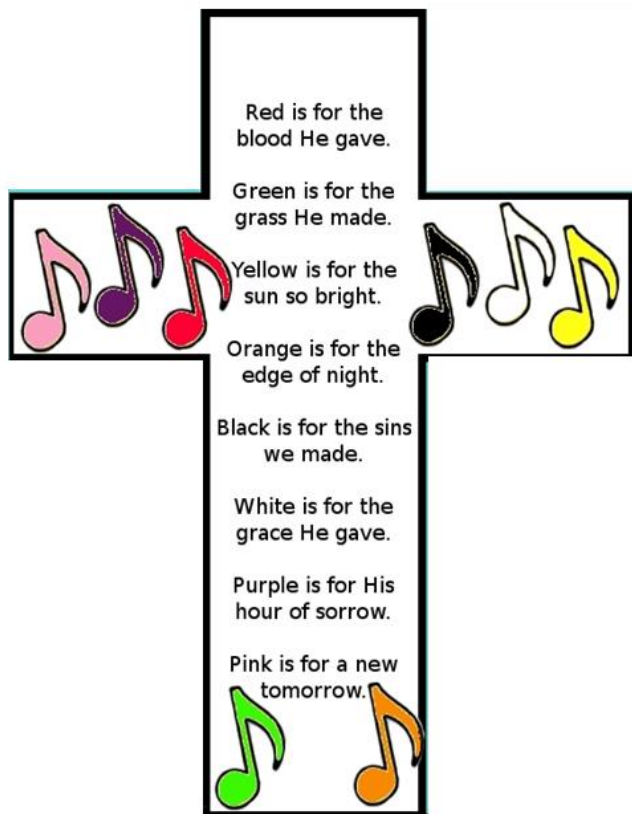
Visitation/Gathering will be at 10 a.m., followed by the service at 11:00 a.m. Please come in support and to share in the celebrating of Jim's life with joy for his victory.

Holy Week and Easter Services



Come Worship With Us!

- **APRIL 10 - PALM SUNDAY SERVICE 10:00 am**
- **APRIL 14 - MAUNDY THURSDAY SERVICE 6:00 PM**
- **APRIL 15 - GOOD FRIDAY – NO SERVICE**
- **APRIL 16 - SATURDAY - EASTER EGG PAINTING WITH THE EASTER BUNNY - 9:30 to 10:30 am**
- **APRIL 17 - EASTER SUNDAY SUNRISE SERVICE 6:00 am**
- **APRIL 17 - PANCAKE BREAKFAST AFTER SUNRISE SERVICE HOSTED BY THE MENS GROUP**
- **APRIL 17 - EASTER SUNDAY SERVICE 10:00 am**



MAUNDY THURSDAY

Please join us
Thursday April 14, at 6:00pm at
The Second Congregational Church for
The Seven Last Words of Christ
by M. Isabel Ritter. This Cantata reflects
Christ on The Cross and the events of
Good Friday. This program was requested
and brings back a tradition of Second
Congregational Church .





Can it really be April? We are nearing Easter Sunday and want to remind everyone that **Coastal Opportunities** will be receiving the Lenten offering. This organization is near and dear to our hearts as both Jeremy White and Leesa Carpenter receive services from Coastal Opportunities.

Missions gave out \$3,589.55 the first quarter of 2022! This includes the \$500 sent to Transfiguration Hermitage for Advent, \$500 to CCCME for Camp Winni, \$500 to AIO for Energy Assist, and \$1000 to One Great Hour of Sharing/NACCC for Ukrainian refugees, as well as, other donations. None of this is possible without your help! Thank you!

We meet every month and do our best to make good decisions about the funds we receive, which leads to the question..."Where do these funds come from?" When someone puts an offering in the plate that offering goes to the church, unless it is earmarked for Missions. We are not part of the church budget. The funds we receive come directly from you, which makes what we do possible. If you don't already give to Missions, please consider making it a new habit for Lent. Don't think of it as giving up something, but in transforming others' lives, including your own.

Happy Easter from your Mission Board!



I would like to thank all of you who sent in their Fair Share this year. Fifty-seven of our members contributed and a few went above and beyond – THANK YOU SO MUCH! Our Missions board and the Deacons helped to make us a Fair Share church this year. You are all awesome.

It is very important that our church supports our association. That is an important part of who we are! They help all member Churches in times of crisis, searching for a minister, helping in repairs or building new churches, and helping persons go to Seminary or to become Lay Ministers. They vet all missions and are very helpful just answering questions we may have.

Please keep all of this in mind when Fair Share is due again – we CAN make a difference. NACCC greatly appreciates our support. Thank you all!

- Marcia

**STATE MEETING: APRIL 23, 2022 – 9am to 2:30pm in HARPSWELL.
PLEASE SEE PAT WEAVER IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO ATTEND.**



Second Congregational Church
PO Box 206
252 Main St
Warren, ME 04864

March 22, 2022

Dear Second Congregational Church:

Thank you for your recent gift to the National Association of Congregational Christian Churches (NACCC) in the amount of \$1,000.00. The NACCC will apply your contribution to Ukraine refugee relief efforts.

Gifts made to the One Great Hour of Sharing appeal enable the NACCC to extend the love of Christ around the globe. As war ravages in Ukraine, we see extraordinary human need. And we observe individuals and organizations responding with courage, compassion, and tangible resources. Your generosity is part of a collective effort to be a force for good in a sorrow-filled world.

We appreciate your gift to this vital funding source and know that it will have an impact. Thank you for supporting the National Association of Congregational Christian Churches as we strive on behalf of local churches to be bearers of peace in the name of Christ.

Grace and peace,

Blessings in Christ,

Ashley Cleere

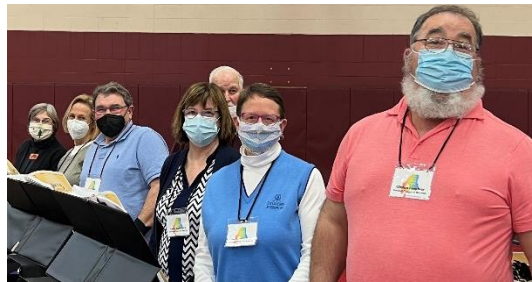
Rev. Dr. Ashley Cleere

Executive Director

National Association of Congregational Christian Churches

Please keep this letter for your income tax records.

No goods or services were provided to you in return for your gift. Therefore, within the limits prescribed by law, the receipted amount of your gift is deductible for Federal income tax purposes.



SPRING RING 2022

Tolling out some good news!

The 2nd Congregational Bell Ringers participated in the Spring Ring 2022 at Auburn Middle School on March 26. Lee Houghton, Cathy Lawrence, Clinton Lanphier, James Pacheco, Louise Cornforth, Barbara Bibro, and myself rang out our music with 55 other musicians from the state. Elaine Sprague was out due to illness and was missed at the program. Joining us during part of the festival is District 1 Hand Bell Choir Chair, Dana Humphrey. This was an exciting time! We began our Bell Choir rehearsals on October 20th.

I want to thank the church for its support and especially the musicians for their dedication and hard work. The 'Tin' program included Victory by Jason Krug, Vasylyna's Tears by Dan Edwards (a song about Ukraine), and Be Thou My Vision arranged by Julie Turner. Other songs were present by 'the Coppers', another leveled Bell Group. The program included a Mass Ring of three songs concluding with Rainbow Connection by Paul Williams arranged by Brian Tervo. Our Bell Choir was encouraged to participate as far as they felt comfortable. People were very encouraging. The Main director Kim Visbaras has volunteered to come and do a workshop. I look forward to that date. More to come ...



This event was especially enjoyable to see and hear all the Hand Bells and see people 'Bringing Back' the Hand Bell Groups across the state after the past quiet years. An enjoyable and memorable moment for myself was being asked to Ring the *Opening Bell*. We would look forward to growing more ringers and had a great experience making music.

Yours Musically, Beverly Pacheco

Our Church History

Linda Lent and I, along with several other church members, are going through the records, documents, reports, etc. looking at the history of our church in readying to scan and archive as much as we can to preserve for future generations. We have come across so much. Personally, I never knew the History of how Second Congregational Church was formed. We found the full history of our beginnings, thanks to Vella. We would like to share the beginnings of our wonderful church, in several segments, in the next few Cornerstones. Also, if anyone has any reports, articles, etc. that they would like to part with please let us know. I am looking for Annual Reports prior to the 70's, also looking for 1982 Annual reports.

Pat Weaver and Linda Lent

WARREN CHURCH HISTORY

The first event of religious significance in this area occurred on Thursday, June 13, 1605 when Captain George Weymouth having explored the St. George's River as far as the present village of Warren, landed at Watson's Point in the bend of the river about opposite the place where the State Prison now stands and there erected a cross. This procedure was customary at that time upon discovery of new territory and possibly had more political than religious significance. However we like to think that that act of so long ago was the beginning of the Christian influence in this area.

One hundred and thirty years later on April 18, 1735, 27 persons entered into an agreement with Samuel Waldo, who had been granted his share of the Muscongus Patent, to settle themselves and their families on the St. Georges River, to build on their several lots a convenient dwelling house within 8 months and dwell there, either they, their tenants or agents; and to clear and subdue 4 acres of land. In return, each settler was to receive from Mr. Waldo 100 acres of land to be laid out 40 rods on the river and to extend back till the quantity was completed. These lots consecutively numbered began at Oyster River and extended northward as far as the upper falls, then southerly on the western side of the river.

Mr. Waldo further agreed to build a meeting house at his own expense for those early settlers and to give "what he pleases" for the support of the ministry; in addition, also to give a lot of 100 acres to the first settled minister, and two other lots; one for the support of the ministry, the other for the support of a free school forever. Accordingly, lot No. 29 on the west side of the river was reserved for the first settled minister and Nos. 30 and 31 for the support of the ministry and schools.

In 1740, in accord with his agreement, Waldo built on the lot given for the support of the ministry, a meeting house near the western margin of the river. It was 40' x 30', without porch or belfry, with one door on the front or South side, and one of the West end toward the burying ground. The timber was cut from the same lot and being of clear pine, the posts and beams were planed and beaded to save the trouble of casing. The walls were formed of plank spiked on without studs and well clapboarded. The window frames and door casings only were painted. The windows were glazed with small 3" x 4" panes set in leaded sashes. On the inside nothing was done but the completion of the pulpit, and temporary seats were provided for the worshippers.

Each Month we will be sharing snippets of our history with you.
Please contact Pat Weaver if you have ANYTHING you could add to this project.

SECOND CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF WARREN

252 Main Street - Warren, Maine 04864



Easter Egg Painting

Saturday April 16, 2022 - 9:30 to 10:30 am



Everyone Welcome

Come and paint a
Ceramic Easter Egg

All Supplies Provided
Light Refreshments and
Goodies for the Kidz

Get a photo with the
Easter Bunny



Call Becky
for more info
273-2912



"You are all cordially
invited to:

**Linda Lent's 60th
and
Lois Silloway's 90th**

Birthday party

Saturday - April 30th

1pm-3pm

**Masonic Hall
Route 90 Warren**

FMI call Linda at 236-4585

No gifts - Just cards





FELLOWSHIP REMINDER

We are gathering for fellowship once again. As a reminder, the Ladies Circle will host the second Sunday of the month and the Caring & Sharing Sisters will host the last Sunday of the month. All other Sundays are open to the Congregation. If you so desire you can bring in a snack to share, but remember you are responsible for cleanup and any foods left over.

LIBRARY NEWS

Hello everyone, well spring has come which means a time of new beginnings and we start to work on some project that nagged us in winter. The library now has a new copy of Redwall by Brian Jacques so a big thank you to the one who donated that. Soon we shall have a library annex in the fellowship room as soon as some details have been sorted out. Spring is truly a time for new beginnings; however, it is up to us to turn the page and start the story.

From James the Wild Rover in the Library

FOOD PANTRY

Thanks to everyone who brought food in for the month of March. Below is the suggested list for April and May. May has two special lists to offer.



<u>APRIL</u>	<u>MAY - LIST A</u>	<u>MAY - LIST B</u>
April 3 – Bread	May 1 – Ketchup	Deodorant
April 10 – Canned Fruit	May 8 – Mustard	Shampoo
April 17 – Baked Beans	May 15 – Baked Beans	Toothpaste
April 24 – Jams/Jellies	May 22 – Relish	Toothbrush
	May 29 – Mayo	Bar Soap

BOTTLE DRIVE

Hello and thanks to everyone who brought in the bottles for the month of March. The box project for April will be the same as it was in March, the Bell Choir.

Once again, thank you to all who brought in bottles and should you need to have your bottles picked up please call us at 236-4585.

Sincerely ~ Ken and Linda Lent ~ The Bottle Box

APRIL MEETINGS

- **Ladies Circle**
Mon., April 4, 10:00am
- **Caring & Sharing**
Mon., April 4, 6:30 pm
- **Missions**
Wed., April 6, 12:noon
- **Diaconate**
Wed., April 6, 6:30pm
- **Trustee Meeting**
Wed., April 13, 6:30pm

REMINDER

**CHURCH COUNCIL
MEETING**
Thurs April 21, 2022
6:30pm
ALL welcome to attend

MEMBERSHIP

Thinking of becoming a member of our church?
Already a member but would like to have a “refresher” course on what it means to be part of the Congregational Church, and to be a Congregationalist?
Contact Rev. Bette

REMINDER

Please make sure the Fellowship room door is securely closed and locked upon leaving.

From the office...

- Current office hours are Wednesday and Thursday 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon.
- Newsletters are mailed and emailed once a month on or near the first of the month.
- Information to be put in the newsletter is due ON or BEFORE the 28th of each month.
- If you need a newsletter mailed to you, please contact the office. Each month there will be printed copies available as well.



Visited our website recently?

Everything you could possibly want to know is within its pages. We encourage you to visit often.

If you have information you would like to add please don't hesitate to contact the office.

www.SECONDCONGREGATIONAL.org

We are also on Facebook

Children's Clothing Exchange
is in need of volunteers to help staff this important mission.
Please see Debbie Collemer.



<u>Date</u>	<u>Attendance</u>	<u>Offering</u>
03/06/22	42	3332.00
03/13/22	41	936.00
03/20/22	60	1431.00
03/27/22	69	1398.00

Don't be fooled !

April Fools' Day, also called **All Fools' Day**, in most countries the first day of April. It received its name from the custom of playing practical jokes on this day—for example, telling friends that their shoelaces are untied or sending them on so-called fools' errands. Although the day has been observed for centuries, its true origins are unknown and effectively unknowable.

Source: *Britannica.com*

Easter Story Wordsearch

D	C	O	S	R	S	P	G	I	F	A	I	T	H
I	R	E	O	E	Y	A	O	S	L	O	S	C	L
S	O	N	N	S	F	S	O	I	S	N	U	R	B
C	W	I	S	U	S	S	D	R	L	E	S	U	O
I	N	W	A	R	A	O	F	E	A	S	E	C	U
P	O	T	D	R	V	V	R	Y	Y	I	J	I	R
L	F	U	U	E	I	E	I	A	A	R	B	F	E
E	T	E	J	C	O	R	D	R	R	A	R	I	D
S	H	B	T	T	R	R	A	P	T	I	E	X	E
O	O	M	S	I	D	R	Y	B	E	R	A	I	M
J	R	O	B	O	M	O	O	A	B	C	D	O	P
R	N	T	A	N	T	A	C	R	O	S	S	N	I
R	S	F	R	A	A	O	R	O	N	A	R	I	O
R	E	J	O	I	C	E	C	Y	I	R	S	O	N

RESURRECTION
 RISEN
 JUDAS
 GOOD FRIDAY
 PRAYER
 MARY
 CRUCIFIXION
 CROSS
 DISCIPLES
 BETRAYAL
 JESUS
 TOMB
 CROWN OF THORNS
 REDEMPTION
 PASSOVER
 WINE
 FAITH
 REJOICE
 SON
 SAVIOR
 BREAD