

The Meeting House Times

The Congregational Church of Salisbury, United Church of Christ

April 2011

Services: Sundays at 10:00 a.m.

Worship & Communion, 1st Sunday of the month at 10:00 a.m



Pamela Wyeth, Editor



30 Main Street, P.O. Box 392, Salisbury, Connecticut 06068 ~ 860.435.2442 ~ www.salisburycongregational.org

"No matter who you are, no matter where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here!"

PALM SUNDAY ~ APRIL 17TH



The **Palm Sunday procession** is one of our favorite church traditions. Weather permitting, we will gather on the green in front of the White Hart at 9:50 with our friends and neighbors from Saint John's Church. At 10:00 we will have a

brief prayer, strike up the band, and process down Main Street singing "All Glory, Laud and Honor." Those not parading, please note: worship in the Meeting House will begin at about 10:15.

The One Great Hour of Sharing offering will be collected Palm Sunday. It literally changes the lives of those who otherwise would not have enough. All that we are and have are gifts from God, so we are urged to join in giving to this endeavor. It really does change lives - your own life and the lives of others.



Tenebrae Service

SERVICE OF TENEBRAE ~ THURSDAY, APRIL 21ST ~ 7:30

The service of Tenebrae marks a significant moment of the Lenten season in the Salisbury Congregational Church.

Readings from the gospel recount events leading up to the crucifixion, communion is served, and as candles are extinguished, the church is darkened and participants leave in silence. It is a moving and contemplative service that brings special meaning to the resurrection celebrated on Easter Sunday. The Senior Choir will sing "Take My Mother Home" by Andrew Clarke at this Maundy Thursday service.

Whether you are attending for the first time or returning annually, the Deacons of the church encourage your participation.

Please consider inviting a friend as well. We look forward to sharing this memorable service with everyone.



EASTER SUNRISE SERVICE APRIL 24TH ~ 6:00 A.M.

Join us as we greet the sun at the Town Grove. Bring the kids, bring your house guests and your neighbors to this informal ecumenical community service. We stand in a semicircle facing the eastern side of the lake, and if there are no clouds, we watch a glorious sunrise as we pray, sing, and celebrate the resurrection at daybreak, as did Mary and the women who were the first witnesses of the empty tomb.



Sunrise Service

After the worship we can enjoy coffee, doughnuts and fellowship at the Grove building.

EASTER SUNDAY SERVICE OF CELEBRATION

The worship begins at 9:45 when our Bell Choir plays a joyous prelude of Easter hymns and an arrangement of Beethoven's Hallelujah from "The Mount of Olives."



The service will also feature music by our Senior Choir, singing "The Whole Bright World Rejoices" by Al Sly, John Ireland's "Greater Love Hath No Man," and the Hallelujah chorus from Handel's "Messiah." The service will conclude with the customary playing of the Toccata from Symphony V, by Charles Widor.

GOOD FRIDAY ~ APRIL 22ND ~ 7:00

You are invited to attend a Good Friday concert and ecumenical service on the Seven Last Words of Christ at Trinity Episcopal Church, Lime Rock.



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One evening a few weeks ago, I was working in my office and the Bell Choir was practicing across the hall. They were playing a beautiful hymn called "In the Bulb there is a Flower" by Natalie Sleeth. The bells' gentle sound brought to mind the words of promise of this piece. I share them with you here as they so aptly address our life together.

*In the bulb there is a flower; in the seed, an apple tree;
In cocoons, a hidden promise; butterflies will soon be free!
In the cold and snow of winter there's a spring that waits to be,
Unrevealed until its season, something God alone can see.
There's a song in every silence, seeking word and melody;
There's a dawn in every darkness, bringing hope to you and me.
From the past will come the future; what it holds, a mystery,
Unrevealed until its season, something God alone can see.
In our end is our beginning; in our time, infinity;
In our doubt there is believing; in our life, eternity.
In our death, a resurrection; at the last a victory,
Unrevealed until its season, something God alone can see.*

As we make our way through Lent and Holy Week it is the hope of Spring and the flowers that points the way for the joyous celebration of Christ's resurrection at Easter.

April holds many transitions for us as a congregation. We journey through Lent for most of the month, culminating with Easter Sunday on April 24th. Our committee membership and leadership will change at the annual meeting on the first of May. As your new pastor, I will pass the "100 day" mark during Holy Week, and finally, I do believe that Winter 2011 will come to an end this month.

It is an exciting time and I am hopeful that you will join me for some of our Lenten, Holy Week and Easter activities. Allow yourself some quiet prayer time on Wednesday evenings or Maundy Thursday. Join us at sunrise on Easter morning as we sing our Alleluias at the Town Grove. Share your thoughts on Thomas a Kempis' *Imitation of Christ* at our Thursday morning book discussions. Most importantly, please join me for worship on Easter Sunday in the Meeting House. The Bell Choir will begin playing at 9:45 and perhaps you will hear a song that will stay in your heart and mind all month.

Whatever you choose, I hope that this month brings you much joy, peace, and blessings.

Pastor Diane

Email: pastor.diane@salisburycongregational.org

As part of our continuing efforts to build strong relationships between the children and adults of our church family, once a month the children's message will be offered by a lay member of the congregation. You are invited to share your faith journey with the children in the form of a "Holy Hello." These brief (5 minute) conversations will focus on your own experience of sensing God's presence in your life. We want the children to understand that we experience God's love in our lives in a variety of ways.

Please consider answering the call to share your story with our youngest members. Contact Pastor Diane for more information.

WELCOMING NEW MEMBERS

On April 10th we will welcome new members into our church community. We will covenant with them and renew our own commitment to one another with these words:



We welcome you with joy in the common life of this church.

*We promise you our friendship and prayers as we
share the hopes*

and labors of the church of Jesus Christ.

*By the power of the Holy Spirit may we continue
to grow together in God's knowledge and love and be
witnesses of our risen Savior.*

I hope that you will be able to join us on the 10th.

SILVER LAKE SUMMER CAMP REMINDER

Registration for summer conferences at Silver Lake Conference Center, the Connecticut Conference's outdoor ministry in Sharon, is now open. Forty offerings include themes around music, swimming, sports, clowning, creativity, service, and more!

The church will offer families help with tuition costs, as it has in the past. For more information talk to Pastor Diane or visit <http://silverlake.ctucc.org>. **Pastor Diane will be serving as the chaplain during week two, July 3rd-10th.**

(For the full article with camp offerings, please see the February 2011 Meeting House Times, also available on line.)

Save the Date!

266TH ANNUAL MEETING, PART II



The 266th Annual Meeting, Part II will take place in the Meeting House following the worship service on **Sunday, May 1st.**

At the spring session of the Annual Meeting, the congregation hears the report of the Nominating Committee and votes for officers for the coming year and new members of boards and committees. Additionally, the trustees will discuss plans to make the church and parish hall handicap accessible, as well as take a vote on a resolution granting "Pastor Emeritus" status to Dick Taber.

The Nominating Committee's proposed slate of officers and committee members will be mailed to the entire congregation two weeks prior to the May 1st Annual Meeting.

Please mark your calendar for May 1st and come to cast your vote and support all who have agreed to serve.

~ Roderick Lankler, Moderator

A reminder that annual reports of all boards and committees are due in the church office by Saturday, April 9th.

CHRISTIAN ACTION & AFFORDABLE HOUSING



The Christian Action Committee has donated \$5,000 from the proceeds of the Fall Festival to the Salisbury Housing Committee to use for expansion of affordable housing at Sarum Village. This donation will help the Salisbury Housing

Committee meet their \$50,000 goal to receive matching funds from the McChesney Fund.

The planned expansion of Sarum Village will include two 3-bedroom, two 2-bedroom and two 1-bedroom units in the spot always intended for such a building. Our donation continues a tradition of contributing to affordable housing in Salisbury. In the 1970s members of our congregation were instrumental in establishing the first units at Faith House. These units along with the housing at Sarum Village are managed by the Salisbury Housing Committee.

~ Kathy Mera for the Board of Christian Action.



SENIOR CHOIR CONCERT

The Senior Choir of the Salisbury Congregational Church will give a concert of music by Gabriel Fauré on **Palm Sunday, April 17th at 3:00 p.m.** Two works will be sung with organ accompaniment played by Christine Gevert: *Cantique de Jean Racine*, and the *Requiem in D minor*. Solo Portions will be sung by Jack Brown, baritone, and Mary Davidson, soprano. Albert Sly will conduct.

All are invited to attend this free concert.

GOT WOOL? LOOKING FOR SUPPLIES



As spring finds its way to the NW Corner, the Prayer Shawl group is industriously knitting prayer shawls (with some crocheting). The first shawl was blessed and has already been given to one of our church members.

As you can imagine, yarn is expensive but most knitters usually have "spare yarn" squirreled away for that project that never came to pass. The Prayer Shawl group would very much appreciate any donations of yarn and large knitting needles (numbers 10-13).

So, if you can't knit or crochet but would love to be part of a prayer shawl, please bring your yarn to church and there will be space allocated to receive your generous yarn offerings.

~ Sarah Zarbock

WHEN THE LIGHTS WENT OUT

Jack: "What happened that time, Lee?"

Lee: "Lights went out in the church school rooms on the north side, Jack, and the upstairs hallway. Wait a minute. But not the outlet on the north wall of the pastor's office."

Armed with walkie-talkies and clipboards, Lee Collins and Jack Ritchie recently roamed from basement to attic, mapping the maze of our buildings' electrical circuitry. Jack kept throwing switches, and Lee looked for lights off/lights on, as they tested electrical panels from kitchen to narthex, basement to stage to secretary's office.

Six circuit breaker panels control distribution of power to the Meeting House and Parish Hall. Lee and Jack, both members of the House Committee, hope to have all the circuit switches clearly labeled and a master list on file.

~ Thank you, Jack and Lee.



SALISBURY CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH ~ ANNUAL REPORT 2010

	Actual	Budgeted	% of Budgeted
INCOME			
Contributions Income			
Plate	7,159.39	10,000.00	71.6%
Pledges	173,161.38	180,000.00	96.2%
Non-member/guest	22,104.00		
Total Contributions Income	202,424.77	190,000.00	106.5%
Investment Income (see note at bottom)	76,407.98	137,869.00	55.4%
Rental Income			
Parsonage	26,400.00	26,400.00	100.0%
Other	250.00		
Total Rental Income	26,650.00	26,400.00	100.9%
Total Miscellaneous Income	7,452.90		
Fall Festival	15,300.00	11,000.00	139.1%
TOTAL INCOME	328,235.65	365,269.00	89.9%
EXPENSE			
Compensation			
Minister	68,303.04	73,000.00	93.6%
Secretary/Organist	50,173.96	46,174.00	108.7%
Sexton	18,630.00	18,630.00	100.0%
Education	11,182.00	8,356.00	133.8%
Bell Choir	4,074.96	4,075.00	100.0%
Guest Ministers	175.00	700.00	25.0%
Guest Musicians (Sundays)	350.00	850.00	41.2%
Financial Assistant	8,821.41	9,348.00	94.4%
Pastor Search	1,930.24	3,000.00	64.3%
Total Compensation	163,640.61	164,133.00	99.7%
Other Personnel expenses			
Minister Health Ins	5,273.64	5,226.00	100.9%
Minister Pension	8,400.00	8,400.00	100.0%
Minister Car	7,350.00	4,200.00	175.0%
Minister Housing	24,000.00	24,000.00	100.0%
Sec/Org Health Ins	2,895.00	3,000.00	96.5%
Social Security	7,564.48	6,600.00	114.6%
Minister Tax Reim	5,586.00	5,174.00	108.0%
Workman's Comp	3,387.00	2,000.00	169.4%
Total Other Personnel expenses	64,456.12	58,600.00	110.0%
Office Costs			
Equip Rental - Copier	5,117.11	4,600.00	111.2%
Computer	537.89	300.00	179.3%
Telephone	1,401.26	1,500.00	93.4%
Supplies	1,954.04	2,000.00	97.7%
Church Bulletins	293.82	1,100.00	26.7%
Newsletter	199.95	750.00	26.7%
Postage	821.06	1,500.00	54.7%
Lakeville Journal	641.18	500.00	128.2%
Payroll Costs	1,514.64	1,500.00	101.0%
Total Office Costs	12,480.95	13,750.00	90.8%
Maintenance & Repairs			
Custodian Supplies	685.65	1,500.00	45.7%
Church-Maintenance - Other	5,100.12	7,000.00	72.9%
Church-Maintenance	5,785.77	8,500.00	68.1%
Parsonage-Maintenance	297.52	1,000.00	29.8%
Maintenance & Repairs - Other	492.30		
Total Maintenance & Repairs	6,575.59	9,500.00	69.2%

Utilities		Actual	Budgeted	% of Budgeted
	Electricity - Church	3,676.63	4,000.00	91.9%
	Electricity - Lot	499.14	500.00	99.8%
	Fuel - Church	10,114.52	10,000.00	101.1%
	Water & Sewer	1,172.14	1,000.00	117.2%
Total Utilities		15,462.43	15,500.00	99.8%
Program Expense				
	Audio/Visual	0.00	100.00	0.0%
	Bell Choir	447.06	1,000.00	44.7%
	Deacons	1,923.81	1,000.00	192.4%
	Music	1,038.45	1,000.00	103.8%
	Organ and Piano	1,570.00	2,100.00	74.8%
	Religious Education	1,939.80	1,500.00	129.3%
	Community Dinner	1,022.82		
	Publicity (Com Com)	100.00	2,200.00	4.5%
Total Program Expense		8,041.94	8,900.00	90.4%
Hospitality				
	Garden	500.00		
	Flowers	1,208.57	1,000.00	120.9%
	Kitchen	2,857.69	2,500.00	114.3%
Total Hospitality		4,566.26	3,500.00	130.5%
Insurance - Fire, Liability...		14,563.75	14,400.00	101.1%
Taxes - Parsonage		4,003.76	4,000.00	100.1%
Reserves				
	Building & Grounds	151.99		
	Parsonage	310.00	5,000.00	6.2%
	Replacement	18,250.89	16,286.00	112.1%
Total Reserves		18,712.88	21,286.00	87.9%
Miscellaneous		2,180.10		
Total Benevolences (See below)		47,604.20	0.00	100.0%
Membership		1,747.50	2,400.00	72.8%
TOTAL EXPENSES		364,036.09	315,969.00	115.2%
Net	Shortfall covered by \$40,000 transfer from Endowment - see investment income above	-35,800.44	49,300.00	
Benevolences				
	Neighbors In Need	1,693.45		
	OGHS One Great Hour of Sharing	869.00		
	Church World Service	50.00		
	OCWM Our Church World Mission	29,300.00		
	Owl's Kitchen	691.75		
	Minister Discretionary	500.00		
	Other	200.00		
	Global Ministries of the UCC	7,000.00		
	Mass. Conference of the UCC	2,200.00		
	Care One Bit Foundation	2,600.00		
	Housatonic Day Care Center	500.00		
	Extras	500.00		
	Salisbury Visiting Nurse	500.00		
	The Housatonic Youth Service Bureau	500.00		
	Northwest Center for Family Services	500.00		
		47,604.20		
		12/31/10	12/31/09	
	Endowment	4,073,000.00	3,671,000.00	
	Replacement Reserve	84,000.00	84,000.00	
	Al Sly Fund	85,000.00	80,000.00	

April

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3 10:00 - Worship & Communion & Church School 11:15 - Board of Trustees 3:00 Litchfield North Assoc. Annual Meeting - Sharon Congregational Church <i>4th Sunday in Lent</i>	4	5 5:15 - Bell Choir Rehearsal	6 6:45 - 7:15 - Lenten Prayer 7:30 - Choir Rehearsal	7 10:00 - Book Study	8	9
10 10:00 - Worship & Church School New members will be welcomed during worship 11:15 - Board of Christian Action <i>5th Sunday in Lent</i>	11	12 5:15 - Bell Choir Rehearsal	13 10:00 - Prayer Group 6:45 - 7:15 - Lenten Prayer 7:30 - Choir Rehearsal	14 10:00 - Book Study	15 6:00 - Potluck Supper	16
17 9:50 - Gather for Palm Sunday Procession 10:15 - Worship & Church School 11:15 - Church Council 3:00 - Senior Choir Concert <i>Palm Sunday Holy Week Begins</i>	18	19 5:15 - Bell Choir Rehearsal	20 6:45 - 7:15 - Lenten Prayer 7:30 - Choir Rehearsal	21 7:30 - Tenebrae Service <i>Maundy Thursday</i>	22 7:30 - Service at Trinity Church, Lime Rock <i>Earth Day Good Friday</i>	23 <i>Holy Saturday</i>
24 6:00 - Sunrise Service - Town Grove 9:45 - Bell Choir prelude & Worship <i>No Church School; Crib/toddler care for children under 4 Easter Sunday</i>	25	26 5:15 - Bell Choir Rehearsal	27 10:00 - Prayer Group 7:30 - Choir Rehearsal	28	29 <i>Arbor Day</i>	30

DEADLINE FOR THE MAY NEWSLETTER: WEDNESDAY, APRIL 20TH



1st	Carly Craig	19th	Betsy Beck
1st	Sandra Haiko	21st	Sierra O'Niel
1st	Ellie Stewart	21st	Judy Stewart
1st	Maggie Crain	22nd	Jeffrey Beck
2nd	Shirley Rogers	22nd	Harriet Lipton
2nd	Linda Estabrook	23rd	Mike Beck
6th	Hannah LaPier	25th	Hildegard Jones
9th	Rachel Reed	25th	Holly Tierney
9th	Susan Ritchie	26th	Madeleine Paddock
11th	Ted Sands	27th	Hannah Stewart
12th	Barbara Jacquette	30th	Barbara Collins
13th	Audrey Eriksson	30th	Rebecca Palmer
14th	Mike Fitting		
14th	Robert Rout		
15th	Noah Rashkoff		
15th	David Rich		
16th	Anthony O'Niel		
17th	Bobbie Olsen		

OPPORTUNITIES

- A community resident has contacted the church to offer a free sewing machine. If you would be able to make use of this, please contact Pastor Diane.
- We need a volunteer(s) to provide coffee for the Easter sunrise service on April 24th at 6:00 am.

BOOK DISCUSSION EXTENDED

The Imitation of Christ by Thomas à Kempis discussion will continue on Thursday mornings, April 7th and 14th, at 10:00 in the parish hall.

STAYING IN TOUCH . . . CONTINUED

Text versions of Pastor Diane's Sunday sermons are now available on our website. You'll find them under the "Pastor's Pages" tab.

**YOU ARE INVITED TO
JOURNEY WITH US THROUGH LENT**

Guided Prayer in the Meeting House

Wednesday evenings: 6:45 - 7:15

Book Discussion:

The Imitation of Christ

by Thomas à Kempis

Thursday mornings: 10:00 - 11:30

In the Parish Hall

Palm Sunday Procession and Service

Sunday, April 17th, 9:50 gathering at the White Hart Inn; service starting around 10:15

Palm Sunday Concert in the Meeting House

Congregational Church Senior Choir

Sunday, April 17th at 3:00 p.m.

Maundy Thursday Service of Tenebrae

Thursday, April 21st at 7:30 p.m. in the Meeting House

Good Friday Service

Friday, April 22nd at 7:00 p.m. at Trinity Lime Rock Episcopal Church

Easter Sunrise Service at the Town Grove

Sunday, April 24th at 6:00 a.m.

Easter Sunday Service in the Meeting House

Sunday, April 24th at 10:00

ALL ARE WELCOME!

"Spring is when you feel like whistling even with a shoe full of slush."

~ Doug Larson

You are invited
to stop by and visit
Pastor Diane
in her office
Monday – Thursday
9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
You can also email or
call for an appointment
860-435-2442

PERFECT ATTENDANCE

The church choir director was frustrated because at least one member was missing from each Easter cantata rehearsal. At the final rehearsal, she announced, "I wish to publicly thank the tenor for being the only choir member to attend every rehearsal."


"It's the least I could do," said the tenor, "since I won't be here for Easter."




FIX YOUR EYES ON JESUS

Remembering Jesus' life, death and resurrection helps us live with gratitude every day.


Use the picture and number code to fill in the blanks for Hebrews 12:2-3, NIV.


























1. Jesus 5. cross
2. weary 6. endured
3. endured 7. scorning
4. opposition 8. shame



1. Jesus 5. perfecter
2. lose 6. him
3. pioneer 7. faith
4. sinners 8. hand



1. eyes 5. right
2. us 6. grow
3. joy 7. God
4. heart 8. throne

"... fixing our  1 on  1, the  3 and
_____ of _____. For the  3 set before _____
 5  7  3  6
he  3 the  5, _____ its  7, and
sat down at the _____ of the _____ of _____
 5  8  8  7
Consider  6 who _____ such _____
 6  4
from  4, so that you will not _____
 6  2
and  2 _____." HEBREWS 12:2-3, NIV
 4

Answer: "...fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith. For the joy set before him he endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. Consider him who endured such opposition from sinners, so that you will not grow weary and lose heart." Hebrews 12:2-3, NIV

