

34 Church Street
Monroe, CT 06468
Tel.: (203) 268-9327
Fax: (203) 268-3153
www.mcc-ucc.org

Office Hours:
Mon. & Wed. 9 am – 5:30 pm
Fri. 9am – 5 pm

Senior Pastor: Rev. Jennifer Gingras
Music Director: Will Duchon
Administrator/Bookkeeper: Diane Prall
CE Coordinator: Jeanette Cardentey-Morales
Church e-mail: secretary@mcc-ucc.org



THE MONROE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

STEEPLE

Find us on YouTube <https://www.youtube.com/monroecongregationalchurchucc>

February 1, 2022



A colleague of mine recently shared a story of her travels to Italy... she noticed in the more ancient villages there were these wonderful little arched windows at shoulder height in many of the stone buildings. They were places where, during the black plague hundreds of years ago, people could stop and get a glass of wine that would be handed through the window. Long before the rise of fast-food drive throughs,

this no-contact way of offering others refreshment brought comfort and hope to those who received it. And, the most amazing thing is 400 years later, many of them are in operation again, thanks to the coronavirus. What a wonderful gift, during such a difficult time.

I share this, not to suggest that the next fundraiser we do be drive-thru wine, but to ask and wonder "*what windows are we building and creating*" to pass the cup of gladness to one another?"

Every time we welcome a new visitor among us with authenticity and grace,
Every time we encourage a musician to share their gift,
Every time we make a child feel at home, like church is the place they are meant to be,
Every time we wrap up a dozen ham and cheese sandwiches for St. George's supper,
we are parching the thirst of someone that needs connection. And it is a beautiful thing!

If you haven't yet had the opportunity to review the **2021 Book of Reports** that we shared at annual meeting, you should! The pages within document a strange time, one that this congregation will be able to look at in the future, to see what you lived through, and how. They reflect our current reality and a determination to try to carry out the ministry assigned to various ministry teams. I want to especially thank our staff and lay leaders, who have followed through with difficult decisions with much patience, grace and compassion. I also want to thank the legion of volunteers who continue to put up their hands to fill new needs we encounter.

Congratulations for doing the hard and joy-filled work of keeping this church thriving and meeting the needs of our community. Congratulations on trying new things, being patient, adjusting to the changing times, and keeping your sense of humor. Congratulations on staying relevant, and protecting one another, as best you can.

In this coming year, we can look forward to celebrating many milestones. As I'm sure you are aware, June 19th marks the 50th anniversary of our modern Strawberry Festival; started on Father's Day in June, 1972. It's also the 150th anniversary of the 1st Strawberry Festival, held in June 1872 by the women of our church and the women of St. Peter's church to raise money to purchase the Centre Green property from the Park Association of the Centre of Monroe (which makes it the 150th of the Monroe Green too!). That Sunday will also mark the 175th anniversary of the first worship service in our current Meeting House. We have so many wonderful opportunities for celebration ahead of us!

In peace, Pastor Jenn

From Our Moderator



We had a successful annual meeting this morning, where the 2022 budget, slate of nominees, and reports were approved, in some cases with minor modifications.

Thank you to everyone who attended--both to those of you who were present in the Meeting House and to those of you on Zoom. Again, apologies to Zoom participants that we could not

share chocolate with you.

The meeting was fast, efficient and to the point, with opportunity for some laughs mixed in. We started at 11:15 and were out of the meeting before 12. A record, perhaps? If you have any suggestions for improvements, technological or otherwise, and within the parameters of Robert's Rules, of course, please let me know. If this is beginning to sound like an advertisement for next year's meeting, it is! Come join us. Take an active part in the life of MCC. If you were not there, rest assured, we missed your voice!

To attendees, we so appreciate your votes, interest, leadership, ideas, participation and active roles at MCC. It takes a village. Special thanks to

Jane Allen, Vaughan Askue, Pastor Jenn, Kate Parker-Burgard, Barbara Pellegrino (who wore two hats today), Mike Pellegrino, Mike Pfalzgraf, Diane Prall, Dave Walker, Susie Cuseo, Scott Young, and Frank [Barnhart] Wittenauer and Mark [Wittenauer] Barnhart (you had to be there!) for your roles, seen or unseen, in the success of this year's meeting.

I would also like to add my thanks to all who are taking new leadership roles. Also, thank you to those who have just completed terms for all of your good work.

Gratefully, Arlene Redmond, Moderator

Christian Education



Weekly Prayer & Bible Study Group! Every Thursday from 9:30-10:30 in Dineson Parlor, everyone is cordially invited and welcome to join us! Bring your favorite Bible (whatever version you prefer) and a small notebook. Let Pastor Jenn know if you have any questions.

In 2022, we are following The Woman's Lectionary and highlighting the stories of two Biblical women a week, some with names, some without.

February 3	Jeremiah 29:1, 4-7, Matthew 12:33-37, 46-50 (Mary waits for Jesus)
February 10	Lamentations 1:1-6, Mark 6:14-29 (Herodias)
February 17	<i>No Bible Study - February break</i>
February 24	Ezekiel 23:1-21, Luke 10:38-42 (Mary & Martha)



February Sunday School Schedule:

February 6 - Healing Stories
February 13 - Bread of Life
February 20 - No Sunday School - February Break
February 27 - The Man Born Blind



Join Jr PF at Coffee Hour Sunday, Feb. 6th for our Souper Bowl Fundraiser supporting the Monroe Food Pantry. Enjoy a cup of homemade soup for any donation amount of your choosing!

Our February Jr PF Schedule:

February 6 - SOUPER Bowl! After Church
February 12 - 5pm Valentine's Party
February 20 - No Jr PF - February Break
February 27 - Escape Room Challenge

This Month in Senior PF:

- February 6 - Fear
- February 13 - Super Bowl Party
- February 20 - Classic PF
- February 27 - Communication

Deacons



Flowers for Worship: Would you like to honor or remember a loved one, or celebrate a milestone? You can do so, while also helping Monroe Congregational Church continue its tradition of fresh **flowers** on the communion table. Please review the available slots on Sign Up Genius and click on the button to sign up. If you do not have access to a computer, call Diane in the office 203-268-9327, and she will help you sign up!

You may choose to arrange flowers from your garden, purchase an arrangement, or send a check (\$25) to Monroe Congregational Church (memo: "flowers" & the date) or use our website to pay online, and we will order for you. If you are supplying the flowers yourself, please set them up between 9:30am and 9:45am, before worship. Thank you!

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0C48ADAC2CA5FEC61-flowers>

Trustees



The 2022 MCC Stewardship campaign "Rooted in Love" update

Our goal this year is to increase our pledge base by 10%, so that we can decrease our reliance on the endowment to fund operating expenses.

To date, we have received **79 pledges** for a total of **\$198,006** which means we are only **\$1,994** away from our \$200,000 goal! **Will yours be the pledge to put us over the top this year?**

If you haven't done so already, please complete and return an estimate of giving card for 2022 in the plate or through the mail, or send your pledge via email to jorourke224@gmail.com. Thank you for prayerfully considering how to financially support the Monroe Congregational Church in 2022!

~ Your Stewardship Committee, *John O'Rourke (Receiver), Diane Prall, Rev. Jenn Gingras*



If you'd like to **give online** during worship (or anytime), simply scan this QR code, which will take you to our VANCO electronic giving page. Thank you so much for your support!

Outreach



St George's Supper – Feel the Love! Monday, February 14

Items needed:

- 10 turkey & cheese wheat bread sandwiches (x3)
- 10 ham & cheese wheat bread sandwiches (x2)
- 12 apples (x4)
- 25 packs of chips or snack pack (x2)
- 25 cereal bars (x2)

Sign up Link <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F054AADA2F85-stgeorges5>

Please consider signing up to help us serve those in need. All items need to be delivered to the MCC kitchen by 3:00 pm on February 14th. Sandwiches may be placed in the refrigerator. Please contact Stacy at 203-500-1279 if you need to help with sign-up or if you have questions. Thank you!

Fellowship



Does planning events and bringing joy to your congregation sound fun to you?? Our Fellowship Board who brings you your annual Easter Coffee Hour, Mother's Day Tea, Christmas Coffee Hour and other special events throughout the year are in need of help! If you are interested or have questions about what the time commitment for a role like this would be, please reach out to Michelle Cardentey (michelle.cardentey@gmail.com) or Jeanette Morales (jeanettemcardentey@gmail.com) and we would be happy to answer any questions you may have. Thank you!!



Donations are needed for the Children's Snack. We are looking for pretzels, goldfish, finger snacks, etc. as well as small juice cups and juice bags of any flavor. Please leave your generous donations on the kitchen counter clearly labeled for Children's Snack. Thank you in advance for your thoughtfulness and kindness. Even though they don't say it, we're sure that the kids appreciate the goodies.



Mustard Seed Thrift Shoppe Volunteers are needed. Are you available on Fridays between 10-12:30 or 12:30-3? We are looking for sales associates who will man the counter. Consider visiting the Shoppe when it's open to speak with a volunteer who can talk you through opening or closing. A procedure list can also be emailed to you, if you prefer. It's really easy and fun to talk with the customers and help with securing funds for lots of different church projects. Please contact Susie Cuseo at thecuseos@yahoo.com or 203-268-0280 with any questions.

MORNING CIRCLE

Morning Circle invites all the ladies of the congregation to their first meeting of the year on Wednesday, March 9th at 11AM in Wilton Hall. We will be putting together birthday bags for the Food Pantry. We will need donations of cake mixes, frosting, birthday candles and birthday napkins. Please leave any donations in the box across from the Men's room. The children who visit the Pantry love receiving these treats. Your generosity is greatly appreciated. Please contact Jackie Bleakney at 203-268-5275 or Susie Cuseo at thecuseos@yahoo.com or 203-268-0280 with any questions.

Please mark your calendars for the following dates:

Wednesday, March 9th at 11AM in Wilton Hall - Birthday bags for Food Pantry
Wednesday, April 13th at 11AM in Wilton Hall - Hygiene kits for Church World Service
Wednesday, May 11th at 11AM in Wilton Hall - Collection of women's products for Food Pantry
Wednesday, June 8th at 11AM - Annual Luncheon



Adult PF will resume meeting in February, with a Zoom gathering on February 6 and—assuming infection rates continue to decline—an in-person gathering on February 20. We will dive into the story of Abraham and Sarah, which begins in the twelfth chapter of Genesis. If you're on the Adult PF email list, watch for a Zoom link. If you're not on the list but you'd like to join us, contact Don Parker-Burgard (dpburgard@sbcglobal.net).



MCC Book Club is open to all church members.

For more information, please call Paula Haggstrom 203-452-0850
email: pjsh55@gmail.com We will continue meet via Zoom.

February 9th, 7 pm - *Slow Fire Burning* by Paula Hawkins, Host: Gayle Hammond
March 9th, 7 pm - *Anxious People* by Fredrick Backman, Host: TBD
April 13th, 7 pm - *The Lobotomist's Wife* by Samantha Greene Woodruff, Host: TBD
May 11th, 7 pm - *The Indigo Girl* by Natasha Boyd, Host: TBD
June 8th, 7 pm - *The Island of Sea Women* by Lisa See, Host: TBD
July 13th, 7 pm - *The Last Mona Lisa* by Jonathan Santlofer, Host: TBD
August 10th, 7 pm - *The Involuntary American* by Carol Gardner, Host: TBD



Young at Heart

Next luncheon will be at Jennie's Pizza in Monroe on February 24th at 12.

Please RSVP to Juliana Lavitola at 203-414-7877 or jsl.lavitola@gmail.com.



With my recovery progressing well, time to thank MCC for their prayers, concerns, understanding, visits, phone calls and cards during the past year. All were very much needed and appreciated. Several times, in past years, I have had to lean on my church and my church never failed me. This church is the best.

Peace, Good Health and Love Betty aka the Queen

Elisha's Corner

By Gary Thompson, Church Historian

Pulpit Suppliers – John Moss

It is not surprising that fifty-two year old John Moss (Jr.) was selected to the first committee to supply the pulpit and "... provide a Minister or Ministers to preach ye Gospels among us". He, along with Peter Curtiss and Samuel Beardslee, were instructed by the General Assembly to call the meeting on June 21, 1762 to establish the New Stratford Parish. He was also from a family of prominent ministers; his second cousin was married to Rev. Ebenezer White of the Danbury Congregational Church, his great uncle Rev. Joseph Moss was the minister of the neighboring Derby Congregational Church, his great-great uncle Rev. Joseph Moss was the founding minister of the Congregational Church of Wallingford – all in Connecticut - and his great-great grandfather was the Rev. William Moss of Manchester, England. His family ancestry was not tied to the original settlement of Stratford, but to that of New Haven and Wallingford. John Moss, "being the oldest son", resided on the forty acres bequeathed to him in 1723 by his father John Moss (Sr.) on the north side of Church Street between Wheeler Rod and Monroe Tpk. (it was the upper section of Moose Hill that intersected with Wheeler Hill at the north and Church Lane at the south). His younger brother, Captain Joseph Moss, whom we know as the leaser of the Parish cemetery and a quarter acre of land for the centre green gifted to the Parish, resided on the bequeathed thirty acres to the south side of Church Street to (Old) Tannery Road.

John (Jr.) was born in Jamaica, New York about 1710, but his youth may have been spend in New Haven where around age twenty or twenty-one he married Sabine Cox, a New Haven girl of sixteen years. They had two sons. John (III) was the oldest. She may have died after child birth in 1734 when second son William was born. Between 1734 and 1735, John was remarried to Sarah Salmon of Stratford. She was eighteen. By the time he was selected to the New Stratford Parish committee his household had grown to six sons and five daughters; perhaps including twins. His last child and youngest son Elihu was only three years old at the time. His eighth child, son Daniel, was born in 1756 and latter became a minister residing in Dorset, VT. At the age of sixty-seven he was listed as a clerk for Capt. Samuel Beardslee's Company, 4th Regiment of the Connecticut Militia during the 1777 campaign at Peekskill and Fishkill New York against the British. On February 3, 1789, at the age of seventy-nine he died and was buried in the Parish Cemetery (provided by his younger brother) with his wife Sarah who predeceased him on April 29, 1788 at the age of 68. They are now buried in the Monroe Center Cemetery.

His father, John (Sr.), born in Wallingford, and his mother, Jane Thompson, settled in Stratford after their marriage in New Haven on Dec 22, 1707. John (Sr.) was thirty, born January 7, 1677, and Jane was twenty-four, born on October 29, 1683. They must have lived in Jamaica, New York for a few years, for that is where their first son, John (Jr.) and third daughter, Mehitabel were born. In the fourteen years between 1708 and 1722, they had two sons and five daughters; all growing to maturity. Their resettlement in Stratford after 1720 may have brought about the purchase of the property on the northern end of Moose Hill. His Will references a "shop" at his residence with "house" and "barn". It appears that he was a merchant of moderate means as well as a farmer. Being

the oldest son and only thirteen years old at the time of his father's death, John (Jr.) and his mother may have maintained the "shop" for her support and that of his siblings for another twenty years when his mother died. Being a merchant may also have been the reason for moving from Stratford to Jamaica, New York, and then back to Stratford in pursuit of more lucrative trading. John (Sr.) died on February 8, 1723, at the early age of forty-six. His wife, Jane, died twenty years later on September 28, 1743.

John Moss' father and John (Jr.)'s grandfather was Mercy Moss who was born in New Haven and baptized on April 1, 1649 in the "First Congregational Society" meeting house in New Haven. In 1669 he may have moved to the newly created Wallingford with his mother and father, two older brothers and two older sisters. Although, being only nineteen at the time it is more likely that he stayed in New Haven to complete his education. Both ancestors and descendants were well educated. Mercy married his wife Elizabeth in 1676 or 1677 when he was twenty-seven and she twenty-two. They had only two sons. Son John (Sr.) was only eight years old and son Sgt. William Moss only three when Mercy died at the early age of thirty-five on March 3, 1685. Widow Elizabeth remarried thereafter to Deacon John Rose of Branford where the boys grew up and where Deacon John Rose and Elizabeth raised three more sons. Mercy was buried in New Haven. Elizabeth, who lived another thirty-four years until January 21, 1720, was buried with her second husband in the Congregational Church Cemetery in Branford.

Mercy's father was yet another John Moss. He was born most likely in Cotheridge, Wiltshire, England in 1603 or 1604, although some genealogies have him born in Manchester, England, where his father was a minister. Cotheridge, though, is about fifty miles northwest of Oxford. Ten miles south of Oxford is Wallingford, Berkshire, England. It is here where at age thirty-five he married Abigail ("Goody") Charles in 1637, and then with a group from Wallingford, including his brother-in-law John Charles, nine year old sister-in-law, Mary Charles, and his sister Sarah Moss Geare and her husband John, Abraham Doolittle, and John Brocket left for New England. There are two accounts as to how they arrived there. The first says that they sailed on the *Hector* with the Rev. John Davenport Co. that arrived in Boston on June 25, 1637. The passenger list for that voyage only lists John Brocket with that group and not the Mosses. The other and more adventurous story tells us that they sailed on the *Winterhee* which was ship-wrecked at sea (likely in the recorded Atlantic hurricane). The survivors, including the Moss party, were rescued by a ship in the area bound for Barbados, where they were deposited. From there they managed passage to Boston and met up with the Davenport Co. Later, that same year in 1637 the *Hector* took the group to the New Haven plantation before returning to England. John Moss was a lawyer and an original proprietor in the New Haven colony. He helped draft and was an original signer of the compact establishing the colony in 1639 as well as helping Rev. Davenport establish the first Congregational Church in New Haven where John Moss served as Deacon. In that same year he became a member of the first (Connecticut Colony) General Court and served the residence for some years in that capacity. He saw action in the King Philips War as a Corporal with the "New Haven Train Band" and was later commissioned a Captain. In the sixteen years between 1639 and 1655, John and Abigail Moss had six sons and five daughters. Only six of the eleven survived to adulthood. Their first child, son John, and fifth child, son Ephraim, died in infancy. Mercy was their seventh child.

By 1667 John Moss prevailed upon the General Court as Deputy to allow him, John Brocket, and Abraham Doolittle to purchase (invest in) property and establish the village of Wallingford (after Wallingford, England). In 1670, and at the age of sixty-seven, he was one of the incorporators of the City of Wallingford. He and Brocket later negotiated with the Quinnipiac Indian Tribe to purchase land that included present day Meriden for spoons, coats, knives, hatchets, hoes, and scissors. He remained a resident of Wallingford until March 31, 1707, when he died at the age of one hundred and three. He is buried in the city's Center Street Cemetery.

we
LOVE
OUR MEMBERS



Heritage Sunday was on January 23, 2022

We honor and celebrate the ways in which these long term members have engaged in the mission and ministry of the Monroe Congregational Church. Through their contributions of time, talent and treasure, they have helped the Monroe Congregational Church thrive as a vibrant faith home. They have nurtured children and youth. They have offered gentle hands and hearts in times of need. They have stood on the side of love and justice in our community. We are grateful for their presence and for all the ways they have participated in this congregation. Thank you for your example and for staying, serving, and growing with us. Our church is a better place because you have been here.

	<i>Joined in...</i>
June Wininger	1947 (75 Years)
Franklin Renz	1954 (68 Years)
Jackie Bleakney	1958 (64 Years)
June Wilkes	1959 (63 Years)
Myron Wininger	1960 (62 Years)
Lorrie Sippin	1964 (58 Years)
Joyce Rousseau	1965 (57 Years)
George & Mary Massar, Gay Muizulis, Gary & Gail Thompson, Don Whiteley, Ann Zeiner, Vaughan Askue	1969 (53 Years)
Tom Kelly	1972 (50 Years)
Betty Heiney	1973 (49 Years)
Carol Kelly	1974 (48 Years)
Gail Olson	1975 (47 Years)
Tony Prall	1976 (46 Years)
Donna Jones Parratt	1977 (45 Years)
Loraine Zeiner, Ron & Peggy Villani	1978 (44 Years)
Andrea Crosnier, Paul Haringa, Bob & Janice Martin	1980 (42 Years)
Marge Fox, Julie & Rob McClenathan, David & Lois Spence, Hubert Muizulis, Mary Renz	1982 (40 Years)
George & Priscilla Cunningham, Gayle & Robert Hammond	1983 (39 Years)
Gerrie Esposito	1987 (35 Years)
Linda Fracassini	1988 (34 Years)
Jane Allen, Ginger Bartlett, Paula Haggstrom, Barbara Ruot	1994 (28 years)
Dave & Susan Walker, Diane Prall	1995 (27 years)
Paul & Suzanne Adams, Julie Heussner, John & Kathy Maiolo, Lauren Provost, David & Linda Rooney	1996 (26 years)
Joe & Betsy Gilberti, Osiris & Julia Gutierrez, Jim & Jennifer Halloran, John & Barbara Yeager	1997 (25 years)
Nick & Linda Caballero, Roy & Jenn Nealon, Laurel & Ken Post, Scott & Katie Young	1998 (24 years)
Michael & Michele Mount, John & Leslie Sekelsky, Jim Vance, Sue Waters	1999 (23 years)
Mark & Stacy Andrejczyk, Rich & Michelle Correll, Josh & Carrie Friend, John & Cindy O'Rourke, Marian Schmitz	2000 (22 years)
Eve Balestriere, Andrew & Kristina Logan, Kristen Provist-Switzer	2001 (21 years)
Lynda & Richard Bauer, Cliff & Susie Cuseo, Suan Grundt, Joanne Malia, Warren Stamp & Sheila Torres, Mary Unger, Trees Whitbeck	2002 (20 years)

Prayer LIST

As the new year begins, we hope that our friends and loved ones listed on our weekly prayer list have found healing of both body and soul. If you or your loved one finds you are no longer in need of our weekly prayer, please let Diane know so we may rejoice in the good news and remove the name making room for those who may need to be added. secretary@mcc-ucc.org or call the office 203-268-9327

Michael Barresi (Maria's Son); **Jennifer Bittar** (Lorraine Zeiner's friend); **Jackie Bleakney**; **Byron Brown & Bruce Bryant** (friends of Will Duchon); **Cheryl Ciambriello** (Wendy Colegrove's friend); **Lori Cimeno** (Peggy & Ron Villani's Daughter); **Cliff Cuseo**; **Dot Dralus**; **Matt Duchon**; **Marge Fox**; **Fern Griffith** (Ashley Levin's friend); **Karen Guinness** (Jennifer Nivison's friend); **Gina & Liz** (Wendy Colegrove's friends); **Gary & Julie Hedine** (Nancy Hedine's son & daughter-in-law); **Mary & Rachel Heerema** (Julia Gutierrez's mom & sister); **Bob Heffernan** (Ann Zeiner's son-in-law); **Brian Hopkins** (Donna Konkol's cousin); **Vera James** (Jenn Wissink's mother); **Kelti** (friend of Liska Gutierrez); **Walter Lane** (Marge Fox's brother-in-law); **Danny Larkin** (Donna Konkol's relative); **Mary-Margaret Logan** (Andrew's mother); **Jacque MacLean** (Jennifer Nivison's friend); **Nicole Malia**; **Mike** (Janie Allen's son); **Jean Moffat**; **Olivia Morrison** (Donna Nickdow's niece); **Joe Mumper** (Julie McClenathan's friend); **Kathy Nivison** (Andy's mother); **Pat Nugent**; **Ocampo family** (friends of Liska Gutierrez); **Ray Osborne** (Colegrove's Family friend); **Dean Perosino** (Gayle Hammond's brother); **Geno Piacentini** (Karen MacDonald's husband); **P.T. Philip** (Liz Sampson's father); **Norman & Jan Ricker** (Linda & Jack Fracassini's friend); **Regina Roberts** (Kathy Maiolo's niece); **Kelly Rodman** (Angela Cross' friend); **Alfredo Rodriguez** (Osirus Gutierrez's cousin); **Lisa Rozmus** (friend of the Pfalzgraf family); **Noah Santiago** (Shari Carrano's great-grandson); **Connor Scalia** (Jen Nivison's friend); **Nicholas Scalzo** (Angela Cross's Father); **Carlos Serrano** (Kathy Maiolo's cousin); **Yessika Siccardi** (Sampson family friend); **Bernie Sippin**; **John Skarupa** (Barb Pellegrino's brother); **Christine Stadler**; **Maria Stadler** (Jessica Pfalzgraf's sister); **Christian & Dain Steiner** (Julie McClenathan's nephews); **Claire Stenzel** (June & Myron Winger's granddaughter); **Olga Terwilliger** (Nancy Hedine's sister-in-law); **Ian and Dick Thompson** (Gary's cousins); **Richard Turco** (Jack Fracassini's cousin); **Susan Walker**; **Charles L. Wynn, Sr.**, (and his mother) **Alleane** (friends of Will Duchon); **Allen Zeiner** (Ann Zeiner's son); **Ann Zeiner**

The concerns of our world: *Those who serve or live in war or conflict zones; first responders and those who serve in law enforcement; those who suffer discrimination; those who struggle with mental illness, addiction, divorce or separation; Caregivers; the homeless, homebound and refugees; Our friends living on the Cheyenne River Sioux Reservation and in Oaxaca, Mexico*

Those serving in the military, veterans & their families: New York: **Zachary Gingras**, Washington: **Rachel Hoffman** (Vaughan Askue's daughter), Virginia: **Chris Meneses** (Lorraine Zeiner's friend), Georgia: **Zachary Peters** (Jacob Parker-Burgard's cousin), Kuwait: **Jon Sanchez** (Don Whiteley's grandson-in-law), South Carolina: **Bob Peters** (Don Parker-Burgard's brother-in-law)

Don't like writing checks? Want to save time and money on checks, envelopes and stamps? It's EASY! Here's how to update or start an electronic payment from our MCC website.

Log on to www.mcc-ucc.org/donate and click **Donate**

Monroe Congregational Church
United Church of Christ

God is still speaking.

Home About Us Join Us! Sermons Ministries **Donate** Strawberry Festival Photos Directions Contact Us Calendar

Welcome to the Monroe Congregational Church's home page!

Worship with us in person (please see our *Our Pandemic Commandments* below) or on our church's You Tube Channel under CCLI Streaming License #2169137 on: <https://www.youtube.com/monroecongregationalchurchucc>, as well as on our Facebook page "Monroe Congregational Church, UCC".

Please join us for a time of fellowship following the service via a virtual zoom coffee hour at 11:30: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81347810863?pwd=SERMb1ILNUZLdHVNc3VMcm5wcEhUT09>

January 29, 2021

WORSHIP TIMES
Sundays 10:00am

SUNDAY SCHOOL
temporarily suspended

OFFICE CLOSED
MCC staff is working from home.

Next:

Monroe Congregational Church
United Church of Christ

God is still speaking.

Home About Us Join Us! Sermons Ministries **Donate** Strawberry Festival Photos Directions Contact Us Calendar

How to Support MCC's Mission & Ministries

The mission of our church to incarnate God's love and work for a more compassionate, just and peaceful world is as important now as ever. During this time of disruption, it is important to maintain our giving so the church can continue it's mission. For now, the church office is closed and staff are working mostly remotely. Now is the time for all of us to do our best to continue our regular donations so that we ensure the smooth and continued operation of our church's ministries. Thank you!

To Donate through VANCO, Click Here

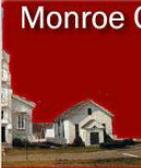
January 29, 2021

WORSHIP TIMES
Sundays 10:00am

SUNDAY SCHOOL
temporarily suspended

OFFICE CLOSED

Then **Login**, or if you are new to electronic payment, **Create a Profile!**



Monroe Congregational Church
34 Church Road, Monroe, CT 06468
Tel: (203) 268-9327; Fax: (203) 268-3153
e-mail: mccsecretary@mcc-ucc.org



**UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST**

Online Donation

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Donations

If you've already created a profile, please "Log In" on the right, otherwise continue.

General Operating:	<input type="text" value="0.00"/>	
Capital Projects:	<input type="text" value="0.00"/>	
Pledge:	<input type="text" value="0.00"/>	
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MusicFest:	<input type="text" value="0.00"/>	
Flowers:	<input type="text" value="0.00"/>	
St. George's Supper:	<input type="text" value="0.00"/>	
Covenant to Care:	<input type="text" value="0.00"/>	
Offering:	<input type="text" value="0.00"/>	
Neighbors in Need:	<input type="text" value="0.00"/>	
One Great Hour of Sharing:	<input type="text" value="0.00"/>	
Other:	<input type="text" value="0.00"/>	<input type="text"/>
Total:	\$0.00	

Log In main

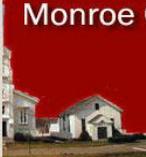
Email Address:

Password:

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Finally select where you want your money to go! If you a **fulfilling a pledge** be sure to choose **Pledge** so your gift will be recorded properly on your Giving statement and in our records. Thank you!



Monroe Congregational Church
34 Church Road, Monroe, CT 06468
Tel: (203) 268-9327; Fax: (203) 268-3153
e-mail: mccsecretary@mcc-ucc.org



**UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST**

Online Donation

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Donations

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General Operating:	<input type="text" value="0.00"/>	
Capital Projects:	<input type="text" value="0.00"/>	
Pledge:	<input type="text" value="0.00"/>	
Outreach:	<input type="text" value="0.00"/>	
MusicFest:	<input type="text" value="0.00"/>	
Flowers:	<input type="text" value="0.00"/>	
St. George's Supper:	<input type="text" value="0.00"/>	
Covenant to Care:	<input type="text" value="0.00"/>	
Offering:	<input type="text" value="0.00"/>	
Neighbors in Need:	<input type="text" value="0.00"/>	
One Great Hour of Sharing:	<input type="text" value="0.00"/>	
Other:	<input type="text" value="0.00"/>	<input type="text"/>
Total:	\$0.00	

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2022 Inclement Weather Policy



Here in New England we get to enjoy seasonal weather changes. At MCC, we have learned to be flexible and make safe choices about our scheduled plans. The safety and well-being of our people is one of our most important concerns. This is our inclement weather policy, including who makes decisions about closings and how the decision is spread in the community. If you serve in a position of responsibility, please find your leadership role below.

In Person Sunday Worship Services:

1. **At 7 am**, Pastor (Jenn Gingras, 203-895-5607) and the current Chair of Deacons make the decision whether or not to cancel in-person worship. If in-person worship is cancelled, Jenn will record and upload an abbreviated worship service on <https://www.youtube.com/monroecongregationalchurchucc> by noon (sermon, prayer, announcements)
2. **Jenn** notifies staff and key volunteers (who in turn notify those they work with), including Jeanette Cardentey-Morales (203-257-9637), Will Duchon (203-615-3908), Reader, Usher and Trustee of the Day. Jenn sends a church-wide e-mail and posts on FB (MCC-UCC Conversation and Monroe Cong Church Page)
3. **Chair of Deacons** notifies CT Weather/IAN Snap, Channel 8 & Channel 3
4. **Committee meetings** are cancelled at the discretion of committee chair, although many are held on Zoom at the moment, so weather shouldn't be a problem!

Sr. & Jr. PF groups will be notified of any changes or cancellations by e-mail, phone tree and/or Facebook notifications as appropriate.

1. Jenn Gingras (203-895-5607)– Makes and communicates Sr PF decision
2. Jeanette Cardentey-Morales (203-257-9637) – Makes and communicates Jr PF decision

Evening Meetings: It is the responsibility of the convener to notify the meeting participants of any changes or cancellations.

Midweek Morning Programs: If the Monroe School district either delays or cancels school, morning Bible studies and other church-sponsored morning programs are cancelled.

Church Office: If the Monroe School System is closed, and staff members are able to travel, they may choose to do so if conditions are safe. Otherwise, they may choose to work remotely.

If you have any questions or concerns, please call the church office at 203-268-9327.

For info on parking lot conditions, our plow guy's name is Adam, his cell is 203-258-8382.



Happy February Birthday to the following people
and to anyone we may have missed we will keep you in our prayers.

Harrison	Gilberti	02/02	Ashley	Malia	02/20
Elayna	Caballero	02/03	Nancy	Smith	02/20
Paul	Granello	02/04	Jacob	Parker-Burgard	02/22
Roy	Nealon	02/04	Emma	Campbell	02/23
Daniel	Balestriere Sr.	02/06	Eric	Grundt	02/24
Jay	O'Rourke	02/08	Barbara	Pellegrino	02/25
Hannah	Andrejczyk	02/10	David	Allen	02/26
Christine	Hare	02/10	Mark	Andrejczyk	02/26
Scott	Provost-Switzer	02/10	Vaughan	Askue	02/26
Ken	Post	02/12	Gerrit	Wissink	02/26
Josh	Friend	02/13	Maggie	Fraser	02/28
Sheila	Torres	02/13	Ashley	Malia	02/20
Julio	Morales	02/15	Nancy	Smith	02/20
Jean	Moffat	02/19			



Happy February Wedding Anniversary
the following couples and to anyone we may
have missed, we will keep you in our
prayers. (Number is anniversary date)

Joseph & Donna Konkol ⁽⁰⁹⁾

Suzanne & Paul Adams ⁽¹²⁾

Angela & John Cross ⁽¹⁴⁾

Donna & Pat O'Hara ⁽¹⁵⁾

and Paul & Marc Cardentey ⁽²⁸⁾

MCC Community Calendar

Tue. February 1st

1:00 pm Mustard Seed Sort and Tag
7:00 pm Outreach ZOOM
7:50 pm Deacons ZOOM

Wed. February 2nd

6:30 pm Confirmation (Dineson)
7:00 Book Club ZOOM

Thur. February 3rd

9:30 am Bible Study (Dineson)

Week of February 6th

Scout Sunday

10:00 am Worship
5:00 pm Junior PF - Souper Bowl Sunday!
5:00 pm Senior PF
5:00 pm Adult PF ZOOM

Tue. February 8th

1:00 pm Mustard Seed Sort and Tag

Wed. February 9th

6:30 pm Confirmation (Dineson)
7:00 Book Club ZOOM

Thur. February 10th

9:30 am Bible Study (Dineson)
6:00 pm Chimes & Bells Rehearsal

Week of February 13th

10:00 am Worship
5:00 pm Junior PF
5:00 pm Senior PF
11:30 am Trustees ZOOM

Mon. February 14th

3:00 pm St George's Supper
7:00 pm Outreach ZOOM

Tue. February 15th

1:00 pm Mustard Seed Sort and Tag
7:00 Bereavement Group

Week of February 13th

10:00 am Worship
5:00 pm Junior PF
5:00 pm Senior PF

Mon. February 14th

3:00 pm St George's Supper

Tue. February 15th

1:00 pm Mustard Seed Sort and Tag
7:00 Bereavement Group

Wed. February 16th

6:30 pm Confirmation (Dineson)

Thur. February 17th

9:30 am Bible Study (Dineson)
6:00 pm Chimes & Bells Rehearsal

Week of February 20th

10:00 am Worship
5:00 pm Junior PF
5:00 pm Senior PF
5:00 pm Adult PF ZOOM

Mon. February 21th

President's Day -office closed
7:30 pm Council ZOOM

Tue. February 22nd

1:00 pm Mustard Seed Sort and Tag

Wed. February 23rd

6:30 pm Confirmation (Dineson)

Thur. February 24th

9:30 am Bible Study (Dineson)
12:00 pm Young at Heart
6:00 pm Chimes & Bells Rehearsal

Week of February 27th

10:00 am Worship
5:00 pm Junior PF
5:00 pm Senior PF