

34 Church Street  
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www.mcc-ucc.org

**Office Hours:**  
Mon. 9am – 5:30pm  
Wed. (remotely) 8am - 6pm  
Fri. 9am – 3:30pm

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

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



**THE** MONROE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH  
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST  
**STEEPLE**

**May 1, 2023**

**With Open Hands**

Legend has it that there was an old man on the isle of Crete who, during his lifetime, loved many things. He loved his wife, his children, and his job, but most of all he loved the land. He loved the very ground he walked on, worked, and fought for. When it was time for him to die, he had his sons take him outside his stone cottage and lay him on the hard earth. He reached down, grabbed a handful of Crete's soil, gasped his last breath, and was gone.

The man arrived at the gates of heaven and the Lord came out dressed in the long robes of a judge and said to him, "Old man, come in." As the old man moved towards the gates the Lord noticed something in his hand and said, "What are you clutching in your hand?" He said, "It is Crete. I go nowhere without it." The Lord said, "Leave it, or you will not be allowed in." The old man held his clenched fist up and said, "Never!" And he went and sat beside the wall of the heavenly city.

After a week had passed, the gates opened again and the Lord appeared a second time, this time in the guise of a man wearing a hat, looking like some of the old man's buddies left behind in Crete. He sat down next to the old man, threw His arm around the old man's shoulder and said, "My friend, dust belongs to the wind. Drop that piece of earth and come inside." But the old man was still adamant. He said, "Never!"

During the third week the old man looked down at the earth he was clutching and saw that it had begun to cake and crumble. All of the moisture of the earth had gone out of it. Also, his fingers were arthritic and could not handle it. The earth began to trickle through his fingers. Out came the Lord, this time as a small child. He came up to the old man and sat next to him and said, "Grandfather, the gates only open for those with open hands." The old man



thought about this, finally stood up, and did not even look as his hand opened and the crumbled dirt of Crete fell through the sky. The child took his hand and led him toward the glorious gates, and as the gates swung open he walked in. Inside was all of Crete. *(story adapted from Robert Strand's Moments for Pastors)*

Even in difficult times, our lives are filled with so many wonderful things, our family, our friends, our pets and our homes. The old man in the story sure didn't want to leave his "stuff" behind and often we don't either. He continued to believe that what he held onto was more important than what he didn't know about on the other side of the gates. Our hope is that what awaits us at the end of our earthly days is something so glorious that all of this will pale in comparison.

All that we are, and all that we have, belong to God. Let's live our lives with the open hands and open hearts that Christ yearns for us to have. The Lord will open many doors for us, but it is our choice to walk through them with love and peace in our hearts. Happy spring and continuing Eastertide, beloveds!

*In peace, Pastor Jenn*

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**Great News!** In November 2022 I heard a presentation from a representative from the Anti-Defamation League at the Fairfield East Association's annual meeting who spoke about the state's homeland security grants for houses of worship which covers some security upgrades. With the help of trustees, I completed the grant paperwork. We were pleased to learn in March that we have been awarded a 2023 Connecticut Nonprofit Security Grant Program (CT-NSGP) in the amount of \$39,500. This grant should cover work over the next 2 years on (and retroactively since 2019): NVR Surveillance Cameras, WIFI boosters, new classroom closers and locks, keypad lock and software, pull alarms in the meetinghouse, and improved lampposts and lights in the parking lot.

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**WORK DAY**  
• at the •  
**CHURCH**

### Trustees

**Spring Cleanup on  
Saturday, May 6<sup>th</sup>  
8:30 – noon**

Whether you can give  
MCC an hour  
or a whole morning,  
please come and help us  
beautify and maintain our  
campus - See you there!



Many hands make light work.

## 2023 Capital Campaign - Painting the Meeting House

Dear MCC members,

Our historic MCC campus includes four buildings that require ongoing upkeep and painting every 5 – 10 years. If you have been to the campus lately, you may have noticed that the Meeting House and front of Beardsley Hall (Mustard Seed) are in need of a paint job, with the paint peeling and chipping in several areas.

The estimated cost to paint The Meeting House and front of Beardsley is \$25,000, and we are hoping to have the painting completed in the Fall. Since we have been drawing on the church's endowment to support our operating budget each year, the board of trustees would like to enlist the congregation's support for this painting project.

So we are launching a capital campaign this year, with the goal of raising the \$25,000 needed to complete the painting. If we can raise the funds by the end of June, we should be able to get the project completed in the Fall as planned.

If you would like to support this campaign, please fill in the form below indicating the level of financial support you can provide for this capital project. Please consider this project and let us know if you can provide financial support by mailing this form back to the church office, or notifying John O'Rourke, the MCC Receiver, at [jorourke224@gmail.com](mailto:jorourke224@gmail.com). You may include a check with the memo: *Capital Campaign* or donate from our website, <https://www.mcc-ucc.org/donate.html>, choosing *Capital Projects*.

Thanks for your consideration – The MCC Board of Trustees

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### 2023 Capital Campaign – Painting the Meeting House

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

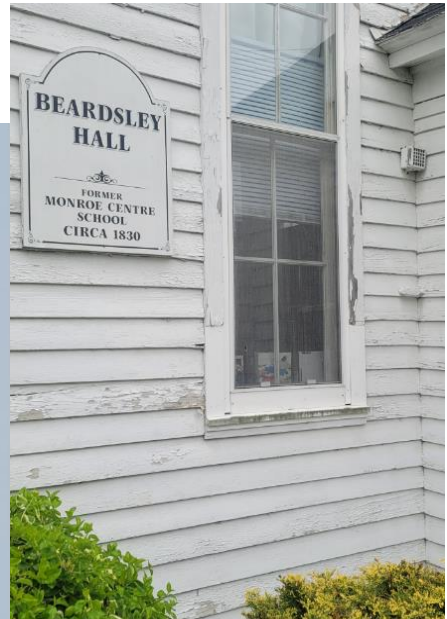
City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

**Amount Pledged:**

\_\_\_\_ \$100 \_\_\_\_ \$250 \_\_\_\_ \$500 \_\_\_\_ \$1000 \_\_\_\_ Other \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Check Number (If included): \_\_\_\_\_  I will mail a check  I gave on-line  I will give on-line





## Outreach



MCC is participating in the **May 7<sup>th</sup> 2023 CROP Walk** to support Church World Service and help families who are struggling with hunger. **We're asking you to join us** - with your steps and your donations - to provide more meals for the growing number of people in our community who need them, and greater food security in communities around the world.

For more information contact Julie McClenathan (203) 261-0360



*Helping Connecticut's Children in Need.*

### **A request from our Covenant to Care social workers.**

Please consider donating what you can.



Children/youth and teens in our community come into foster care sometimes with little to no belongings with them. To help aid in this transition and try to provide a sense of belonging, I am hoping to have donations of a few essential items such as hygiene items, diapers, wipes and toothbrushes to provide a family or teen to get through the first night/few days of placement in a new and unfamiliar home.

We are seeking donations of any new, full-sized hygiene items. **Top 3 Hygiene items requested:** deodorant, body wash (for either gender) and shampoo/conditioner. Other hygiene items: toothbrush, toothpaste, hairbrush, baby wash/shampoo, hair care products, skin care products, shaving cream, razors and feminine products.



**Our families could also use new/unopened diapers/pull-ups any size (Newborn to size 6) and wipes.**

Thank you so much for this wonderful opportunity to continue partnering with Monroe Congregational Church! Our families are so thankful for the assistance and together, we are having a direct impact on children and youth within our communities experiencing foster care.

Thank you and *Be well, Samantha*  
**Connecticut Alliance of Foster & Adoptive Families**

It's been a while since you've seen the Heifer International collection bottle on the coffee table. We'll have it back out this month



where we'll receive **your spare change to help Heifer International's mission to end hunger and poverty** in a sustainable way by supporting and investing alongside farmers and their communities. Your donation provides livestock, plantings and seeds to those individuals far away who in turn share with others so that they too can live better lives. Please contact Susie Cuseo at 203-268-0280 or [thecuseos@yahoo.com](mailto:thecuseos@yahoo.com) with any questions or comments. Let your spare change change those in need of improvement in their lives.



Another way to serve at MCC is **volunteering at the Mustard Seed Thrift Shoppe**. There are so many ways to help out here: 1) **Sorting, tagging and hanging occurs on Tuesdays** at 1PM, just show up at the Gingerbread door and the ladies will guide you with the process. 2) **Working the counter** - Volunteer for a two-hour shift either on Friday or Saturday with easy step-by-step instructions on how to open or close the Shoppe with everything in between by contacting Susie Cuseo at [thecuseos@yahoo.com](mailto:thecuseos@yahoo.com) or 203-268-0280 to sign up. 3) **Donate your precious goods** - gently-used clothing, toys, books, shoes and small household items in the collection box located outside the Shoppe or drop off during business hours or when the ladies are sorting on Tuesdays. **Monies from sold items go to Outreach programs**, pilgrim fellowship and special projects that may come up. It's quite a rewarding experience to see how your efforts provide for the congregation and community.



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### Faith Formation



**Welcome the Children:** The presence of children is a gift to the church, they give us a future filled with hope, and a present filled with joy. We have some Worship Tool Bags filled with art items and quiet toys to help them find worship more engaging and meaningful. Please see an usher or Greeter to obtain one.

# SUNDAY SCHOOL

Our **Sunday School** is available today for pre-school through junior high age children! Simply follow the group that departs after the children's message. If this is your first time visiting with children, you may want to accompany them and get them settled in with the teachers and other students. Welcome!

## Weekly Bible Study Thursday 9:30-11am

We cordially invite you to join us each week in in Dineson Parlor for prayer and conversation about the upcoming scripture for Sunday.



**JR PF** Our junior-high youth group (grades 6-8) meets every Sunday from 5-6:30 in classroom 5, join us! **\*See the flyer near end of the Steeple letter for the Jr PF "Parents Night Out" Fundraiser benefiting Crop Walk!**

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## Fellowship

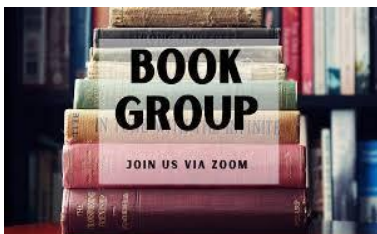
**Young At Heart** will meet Thursday, **May 25<sup>th</sup> at noon**

See your Sunday bulletin for updates as they become available.

## It's Back!

**Please join us for Adult PF the fourth Saturday of the month in Dineson Parlor from 5:30 to 8pm!** Bring your own beverage and a snack to share. We are excited to bring Adult PF

back to MCC in a new format! Each month will be led by different members of the group. It could be a discussion of an article or movie, a game night or a service project for MCC or the greater community, or an outing etc. Your presence and ideas are wanted and welcome. All adults young and old are encouraged to attend. Please reach out to Janie Allen via phone/text/email at 203-522-3686 or [janeFallen@sbcglobal.net](mailto:janeFallen@sbcglobal.net) with any thoughts or questions. Our **next meeting will be Saturday 5/20**. Come check it out!



**MCC Book Club is open to all church members.** We will continue to meet via zoom on the **3rd Wednesday of each month at 7 pm**. For more information, please call Paula Haggstrom 203-452-0850 email: [pjsh55@gmail.com](mailto:pjsh55@gmail.com)

May 17 *The Cloisters* (Hays) Host: TBD

June 21 *The Library Book* (Orlean) Host: Arlene Redmond





The "Big Reveal" potluck luncheon will be held on Sunday, May 21st at 11:15AM in Wilton Hall. A sign up sheet will be posted two weeks prior to the event. Please bring a dish to share: appetizers, entrees or desserts. No matter what you bring, everyone enjoys the variety. I look forward to seeing you at the luncheon. Please remember that you can contact me with any questions or concerns at [thecusesos@yahoo.com](mailto:thecusesos@yahoo.com) or 203-268-0280.

**Morning Circle** invites all the women of the congregation to our next meeting on Wednesday, May 10<sup>th</sup> at 11AM in Dineson Parlor where we will be collecting Women's hygiene products for the Monroe Food Pantry. Bring a sandwich lunch as we have a short business meeting. Please contact Susie Cuseo if you have any questions at [thecuseos@yahoo.com](mailto:thecuseos@yahoo.com) or 203-268-0280.



Wednesday, June 1<sup>th</sup> at 11AM - Annual June Picnic - Sal's Pizza in Monroe

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**Strawberry Jam sale!** Consider purchasing a couple of jars at \$5 each for your teacher at the end of the school year, or for your mailman, cleaning person, Amazon deliver, or co-worker for their birthday. Jam will be sold during coffee hour during the months of April and May depending on supply. Please contact Susie Cuseo at [thecuseos@yahoo.com](mailto:thecuseos@yahoo.com) or 203-268-0280 with any questions. **\*See the Jr PF table at coffee hour to purchase a custom made Strawberry Jam Gift Bag!**



**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. You can sign-up in Wilton Hall or online! 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> or [MCC-UCC.org](http://MCC-UCC.org)

Elisha's Corner  
**Beardsley Hall – The First Addition**  
Gary Thompson, Church Historian

It is unconscionable to tell the history of Beardsley Hall without including the "Men's Club". Exactly one year before the Ladies Improvement Society voted to name the church parlor Beardsley Hall, nineteen men of the church met in the church parsonage at the urging of Rev. Joseph Henderson to organize the club. Officers were elected and a meeting schedule for the first and third Thursday of each month was established. At their next meeting on March 3, 1932, "The Congregational Men's Club of Monroe" constitution and by-laws were adopted. They sponsored and held fund raising entertainment activities for the congregation and the community, sponsored a Boy Scout Troop, established the Christmas tree lighting tradition on the Centre Green, promoted a zoning commission for the Town, conducted "song services" on Sunday, and made improvements to the church property and maintained it. Of all this and more, it was the latter that put them in parallel in purpose with the Ladies Improvement Society. In June of 1935, their initiation of a plan to purchase the Monroe Center School House (on Old Tannery Road) and repurpose it as an addition to the back of Beardsley Hall was perhaps the most major and longest running project they undertook.

Their June 1935 minutes recorded that "Mr. G. A. Berg was voted chairman of the Building Committee with the officers of the club assisting". The Committee was empowered to finance the moving of the building and place it on a foundation in back of Beardsley hall. The Ladies Improvement Society was so notified of their intention and happily supported the effort. At their August 9<sup>th</sup> meeting the Committee agreed to contract with Leonard Buchanon for \$150 to have him dig a 20' x 20' x 7' cellar; build a stone foundation 7' high on "3 sides in accordance with plans"; build a 3 1/2' wall 10' from main building; build a trench wall "on (the)drive(way) side approximately 10' long" and "a trench wall on (the) East (side) approximately 18' long by 5' wide"; and install two cellar windows on the driveway side. The woodshed, platform and steps, and the second floor window of the schoolhouse were to be removed and their openings sealed; install necessary columns and piers; build a chimney approximately 30' high using a 12 x 12 flue from the cellar up; and lay a 3" concrete cellar floor. He was to remove the cornice and clapboards from the schoolhouse and connect the addition to the main hall and flash properly; repair the schoolhouse roof; build a new addition approximately 18'x 5' including two windows (along the east side of the schoolhouse) with a single roof, and floor; and "move the (outside) toilet and place it on suitable foundation". The committee members were responsible for hauling the school, the foundation stone, sand and gravel. It was a lot of work for \$150 (about \$3,295 today).





The 18' X 5' addition was built along the side of the School House so to increase its width to match the width of the original Hall. The back of the School House was attached to the back of the Hall. Viewing the back of Beardsley Hall today you will see the front entrance to the School House. There are two separate entrances off the porch to the left and right; one for boys and one for girls, who sat separately together on either side of the classroom. A fire wood box was built in front of the door to the right and its entry way was converted to a storage closet.

Each member was to provide "a day's labor or its (monetary) equivalent". Two weeks later they recorded that, "conservatively figuring" that the total project would cost "at the most \$300". The opinion of the group was to borrow "a sum not to exceed \$350" (about \$7,685 today) from the "North End Bank for (just) this part of the building project". As with the original Hall, Robert Sinclair donated sufficient land to accommodate the addition. He also supplied the truck to do the hauling. The work began on August 6<sup>th</sup>. The Rev. Harrison participated in the physical labor, along with Hans Dineson, Willard Stanley, and the rest of the Committee. The attachment was completed by the end of September. The Club then resolved to increase the loan to \$400 (or about \$8,785 today). They "placed a brass box in the corner of (the) new building. The material (was) to be furnished by the Secretary and the workmanship by the Treasurer. This box (was) to contain (their) by-laws, charter and total membership, picture of the schoolhouse and History of the same from Robert Sinclair (which needs to be found). The Ladies Improvement (Society) (was) invited to use (the) container for their papers, etc.". On Sunday, Oct. 6<sup>th</sup>, a dedication ceremony was held for the first addition to Beardsley Hall. "The building as far as agreed by contract (was) promised to be completed within two weeks. It (was) then necessary to have "Bees" to do work on the new project. .... A 'Bee' was held Sat. Nov. 2<sup>nd</sup> with much work accomplished."

Just how much was accomplished was enumerated a month later in *The Bridgeport Post*, Saturday, December 21, 1935: "... Members of the Congregational Men's Club entertained their wives and friends for the first time Thursday night with a Christmas party in their enlarged hall - practically completed ...." The kitchen in the old hall was torn out, adding 14 feet to the auditorium. In the addition a new "spacious" kitchen was installed and a stage was added between the new kitchen and the main hall. The plastered walls in the original hall were replaced with plywood." The stage was designed by member Eugene R. Blake and included "a handsome blue curtain and footlights". The electrical work was done by Hans Dineson. The Ladies Improvement Society was acknowledged for their (\$200) financial support of the addition. Still, this was only the beginning for the Men's Club. In

August of 1936, they sent requests for quotes to five plumbers to address the heating problems in the Hall. In September their minutes note that, "The kitchen pump (did) not hold water, to be rectified. The pump (will) be permanently installed." The following month, October 1<sup>st</sup>, the minutes report that, "In view of the fact that Mr. Vichicili, the representative of the Bridgeport Furnace Works, seems to offer so much more and seems to so thoroughly understand heating engineering that it was unanimously decided to give the contract to his concern." At \$465 (\$9,000 today) their quote was \$50 higher than the low bidder of the other four bidders. It was paid off in installments. They were in the middle of the Great Depression when money was tight.

A year later, in 1937, it is noted in their minutes that a pump, water heater, and shelves had been installed. "The Ladies (were) to be billed \$150 for the job, which would have netted \$30 to the Men's Club. Hans Dineson donated \$15 for the heater." By this time the meeting attendance of the Men's Club was down to eight men; probably due to lack of dues. In a thank you letter from the Ladies they wrote, "The work at our recent Turkey Supper was made so much easier and the smiles on the Ladies faces (were) very gratifying." In that same year the men recorded that on June 5, 1937, "A motion was passed that the sum of money amounting to \$385 be borrowed from the Church Trust Funds at 6% interest. The Treasurer was empowered to pay off (their) note at the North End Bank and the bill of the Stepney Lumber Company." They borrowed from themselves to end the debt just for attaching the first addition. By year end 1938, \$110.73 was still outstanding for payment for the furnace. Among their accomplishments for that year they listed "... Trench dug and tile laid to drain B Hall eliminating the necessity of sump pump and heavy consumption of electricity. Tile and crushed stone put around walls of Beardsley Hall cellar keeping it dry." Conservation of resources was still most likely paramount.

In May of 1939 "Mrs. Richards (pastor's wife) and Mrs. Dineson requested that the Men's Club look into the possibility, planning, and (supervision) of installing toilet facilities (in Beardsley Hall) to be financed by the Ladies (Improvement Society) ....". It was "recommended that 8' be added to (the) North end of last hallway (in the Hall) for 1 toilet." They "estimated it would cost \$50 for 100 feet of drain line and a frost proof toilet, in addition to "\$100 for building". In September the "Ladies requested the Men's Club to proceed immediately with the installation of toilet in B. Hall." In November they recorded that "Excavation for (the) toilet (was) well along. Masonry (was) done by Sam Hurd and E. Richards (pastor)". The toilet was finished with exception of inside carpentry work and plumbing which would be done by the end of November.

Their February 6, 1941 minutes indicate that, "Ladies Organization said they would pay the bill for having a partition put in between the furnace cellar and the space under the main Hall to help keep the pipes in the furnace room from freezing if the Men's Club will have it done.", which it was. In their annual report for 1941, the Men's Club estimated that "slightly over \$1000 was spent on Beardsley Hall for its renovation by the men in a period of about five years." On average, that would equate to \$21,000 in today's dollars for a period from 1936 to 1941. Even in a major economic depression it was probably a worthwhile project.

The repurposing of the Center School House to provide for a larger kitchen has been repurposed yet again; back to a schoolhouse that accommodates a good portion of the Gingerbread School House for pre-school children today.

# JR PF PRESENTS: + PARENT'S NIGHT OUT

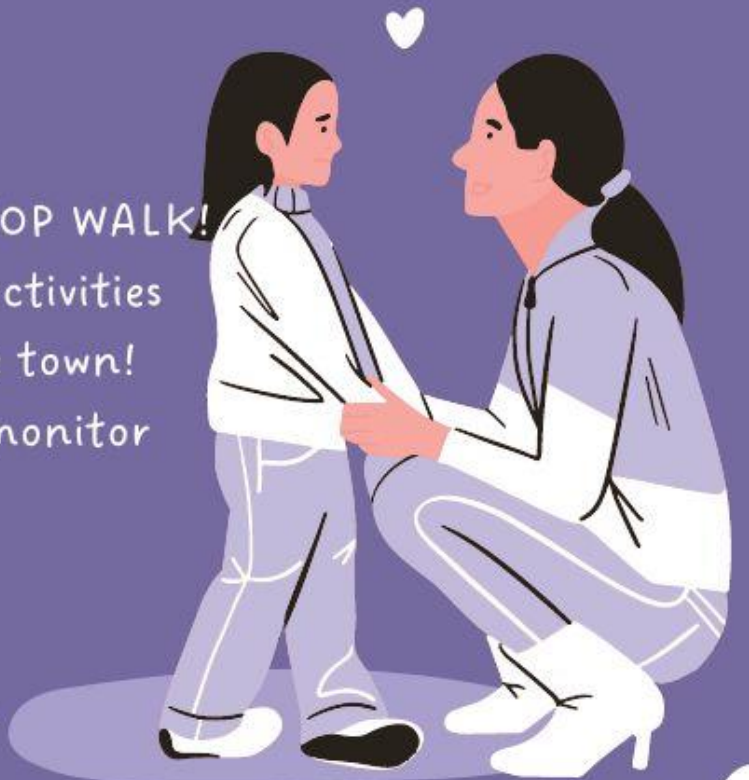
Sat May 6th 6-9pm

\$20/child or \$30/Family

ALL PROCEEDS BENEFIT THE CROP WALK!  
Children will have a variety of activities  
while you get a night out on the town!  
Adult advisors will be onsite to monitor  
and supervise.

Sign-up today:

[jeanettemcardentey@gmail.com](mailto:jeanettemcardentey@gmail.com)





# 2023 CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

## PAINTING THE MEETING HOUSE



Our historic campus requires regular maintenance, inside and out. The exterior of the Meeting House (including the Steeple) and front of Beardsley Hall (Mustard Seed) are in dire need of a paint job. The estimated cost is \$25,000, and we are hoping to have the work completed in the Fall. *Thanks for your support!*

**To contribute, send a check with the memo: Capital Campaign or donate on our website (choosing Capital Projects)  
<https://www.mcc-ucc.org/donate.html>**



## MORNING CIRCLE

**11 am Wednesday, May 10th Dineson Parlor**

In honor of Mother's Day, we are collecting Women's hygiene products for the Monroe Food Pantry.

All ladies of the church are welcome, please bring a bag lunch. If you'd like to donate, or you have any other questions, please speak with Susie Cuseo.

Thank you!



## *In Our Prayers*

**Family and friends of Shawn Kadric** (Diane Prall's brother-in-law); **Alison Abrams** (Jessica Pfalzgraf's Stepsister); **Allie** (Colegrove's friend); **Jacki** (Maria Barresi's daughter); **Michael Barresi** (Maria's Son); **Jennifer Bittar** (Lorraine Zeiner's friend); **Jackie Bleakney; Byron Brown & Bruce Bryant** (friends of Will Duchon); **Lori Cimeno** (Peggy & Ron Villani's Daughter); **Dawn** (Donna Konkol's Friend); **Dot Dralus; Matt Duchon; Judy Elmendorf; Bruno Forte** (friend of Nancy Hedine); **David Fischman** (Sue Granello's Friend); **Dave Fuller** (Gail Olson's brother); **Karen Guinness** (Jennifer Nivison's friend); **Sophina Gingras; 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); **Jonathan** (Matt Colegrove's brother); **Kelti** (friend of Liska Gutierrez); **Walter Lane** (Marge Fox's brother-in-law); **Jacquie MacLean** (Jennifer Nivison's friend); **Nicole Malia; Betty McKeown** (Donna Konkol's mother); **Mike** (Janie Allen's son); **Jean Moffat; Joe Mumper** (Julie McClenathan's friend); **Kathy Nivison** (Andy's mother); **Pat Nugent; Ocampo family** (friends of Liska Gutierrez); **Jacki O'Conner** (Maria Barresi's daughter); **Jennifer Olson** (Gail Olson's daughter-in-law); **Missy Olson; 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); **Alfredo Rodriguez** (Osirus Gutierrez's cousin); **Noah Santiago** (Shari Carrano's great-grandson); **Connor Scalia** (Jen Nivison's friend); **Carlos Serrano** (Kathy Maiolo's cousin); **Yessika Siccardi** (Sampson family friend); **Bernie Sippin; Peggy Sippin** (Lori Sippin's daughter-in-law); **John Skarupa** (Barb Pellegrino's brother); **Sheldon Smith; Christine Stadler; Tom Steen** (Jessica Pfalzgraf's dad); **Christian & Dain Steiner** (Julie McClenathan's nephews); **Claire Stenzel** (June & Myron Winger's granddaughter); **Olga Terwilliger** (Nancy Hedine's sister-in-law); **Ian Thompson** (Gary's cousin); **Richard Turco** (Jack Fracassini's cousin); **Charles L. Wynn, Sr.**, (and his mother) **Alleane** (friend of Will Duchon); **Allen Zeiner** (Ann Zeiner's son); **Ann Zeiner**

**The concerns of our world:** The people of **Ukraine; LGBTQ+ children and their families** facing discrimination; those who serve or live in **war or conflict zones** around the world; **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:** Germany: **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) Stateside: **Joel Smith** (250th Engineering Company)



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

Chuck	Schneider	05/01	David	Spence	05/13
Allen	Crosnier	05/02	Nicole	Williams	05/14
Joyce	Rousseau	05/03	Mark	Barnhart	05/15
Jenna	Rice	05/05	Shaina	Stamp	05/16
Hank	Allen	05/06	Marissa	Maiolo	05/18
Kristina	Logan	05/06	Linda	Caballero	05/20
Gay	Muizulis	05/06	Bethany	Dupuis	05/24
Gilles	Rousseau	05/06	Linda	Rooney	05/24
Gary	Thompson	05/06	Stacy	Andrejczyk	05/25
Will	Duchon	05/07	Debra	Hansen	05/26
Alexa	Unger	05/07	Justin	Riffard	05/27
Tyler	Vaglivo	05/07	Muriel	Hastedt	05/28
Corey	Schneider	05/08	Rebecca	Young	05/28
Kelly	Halloran	05/09	Scott	Whiteley	05/30
Jonathan	Hyde	05/12	Melissa	Coleman	05/31
Cindy	O'Rourke	05/13	Warren	Stamp	05/31

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



Gayle & Bob Hammond <sup>(04)</sup>      Josh & Carrie Friend <sup>(10)</sup>  
 Kathy & John Maiolo <sup>(14)</sup>  
 Brian & Ann-Marie Campbell<sup>(17)</sup>    Myron & June Winger <sup>(24)</sup>  
 Sheldon & Nancy Smith <sup>(28)</sup>



## May MCC Community Calendar

### Mon. May 1<sup>st</sup>

7:00 pm Outreach (Zoom)

### Tue. May 2<sup>nd</sup>

1:00 pm Mustard Seed Sort and Tag

### Wed. May 3<sup>rd</sup>

8:30 am MCC Sponsored Blood Drive  
7:00 pm Confirmation – History Night

### Thurs. May 4<sup>th</sup>

9:30 am Bible Study  
5:45 pm Chime Choir  
7:00 pm Chancel Choir

### Sat. May 6<sup>th</sup>

8:30 am MCC Spring Clean Up  
5:30 Jr PF Parents Night Out  
9:00 pm Jr PF Lock In

### Week of Sun. May 7<sup>th</sup>

*Communion Sunday*

10:00 am Worship  
11:30 am Trustees  
12:30 pm Elliot Malia Baptism  
1:30 pm Crop Walk  
5:00 pm Junior PF

### Mon. May 8<sup>th</sup>

7:30 pm Deacons (Zoom)

### Tue. May 9<sup>th</sup>

1:00 pm Mustard Seed Sort and Tag

### Wed. May 10<sup>th</sup>

11:00 am Morning Circle  
7:00 pm Confirmation – Decision Night

### Thurs. May 11<sup>th</sup>

9:30 am Bible Study  
5:45 pm Chime Choir  
7:00 pm Chancel Choir

### Week of Sun. May 14<sup>th</sup>

10:00 am Worship ~ Mother's Day  
5:00 pm Junior PF

### Mon. May 15<sup>th</sup>

7:30 pm Council (Zoom)

### Tue. May 16<sup>th</sup>

1:00 pm Mustard Seed Sort and Tag

### Wed. May 17<sup>th</sup>

7:00 pm Book Club Zoom  
6:30 pm Confirmation Celebration  
Dinner & Rehearsal

### Thurs. May 18<sup>th</sup>

9:30 am Bible Study  
5:45 pm Chime Choir  
7:00 pm Chancel Choir

### Sat. May 20<sup>th</sup>

5:30 pm Adult PF

### Week of Sun. May 21<sup>st</sup>

*Confirmation Sunday*

10:00 am Worship  
11:30 Prayer Partner Luncheon  
5:00 pm Junior PF

### Tue. May 23<sup>rd</sup>

1:00 pm Mustard Seed Sort and Tag

### Thurs. May 25<sup>th</sup>

9:30 am Bible Study  
12:00 pm Young at Heart  
5:45 pm Chime Choir  
7:00 pm Chancel Choir

### Sat., May 27<sup>th</sup> – Sun., May 28<sup>th</sup>

Monroe's 200th Anniversary Weekend

### Week of Sun. May 28<sup>th</sup>

10:00 am Worship  
1 pm Memorial Day Parade

### Mon. May 29<sup>th</sup>

*Memorial Day – office closed*

### Tue. May 30<sup>th</sup>

1:00 pm Mustard Seed Sort and Tag