

**April  
2022**

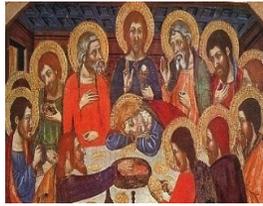


**MEETING HOUSE CHIMES**

First Congregational Church, PO Box 350, Wiscasset, ME 04578  
(207) 882-7544 [www.uccwiscasset.org](http://www.uccwiscasset.org) [fccw@myfairpoint.net](mailto:fccw@myfairpoint.net)  
Office Hours: Tuesday through Thursday, 9am-12pm  
Interim Minister: Rev. Dr. Amy Lignitz Harken, Organist: Joel Pierce  
Sexton: Mary McKinney, Office Administrator/Editor: Angela Richards

**WONDEROUS LOVE**

**HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE**



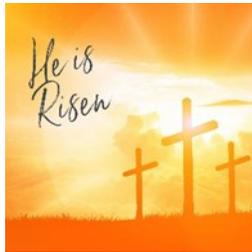
[This Photo](#) by Un-

Maundy Thursday Tenebrae with Communion 7pm April 14<sup>th</sup> ,with St. Philip's Episcopal Church at First Congregational Church



[This Photo](#) by Un-

Taize Good Friday Service  
7 pm April 15<sup>th</sup> with St. Philip's Episcopal Church at St. Philip's Episcopal Church



Easter Sunrise service 6am April 17<sup>th</sup> at the Wiscasset Waterfront with St. Philip's Episcopal Church. Please bring your lawn chair.



Traditional Easter Service at First Congregation Church  
10am April 17<sup>th</sup>  
In person, via Zoom and Facebook



## Church World Service

### Special Offering for Ukraine - April 3<sup>rd</sup>

There will be a special offering on April 3<sup>rd</sup> for the Church World Service “Ukraine Crisis Response Fund.” This will offer humanitarian assistance to meet the needs emerging from the Russian invasion of Ukraine focusing on providing aid to people displaced by the conflict. Please make your checks out to First Congregational Church, UCC with “Ukraine Crisis Response Fund” on the memo line. Thank you so much.

### CWS Kits

It's time.....past time to begin our annual CWS Kit program. We did not learn until today (3/23) that we would have a depot available to receive the kits in Maine this year. So, this will be a quick, shortened program. The directions for the school kits and hygiene kits can be found below; there is a sign up poster in Fellowship Hall for items needed to fill 3 Emergency Clean-Up Buckets. All items must be in by Sunday, April 24<sup>th</sup>.

You can also go to [cwsglobal.com](http://cwsglobal.com), click on Take Action, then choose CWS Kits and find more information about compiling the kits; you also have the option of going to [cwskits.org/donate](http://cwskits.org/donate) and donate for a virtual kit.

As we hear the sad news every day of conflicts causing thousands/millions of displaced people and natural



disasters such as tornados and fires, these kits are so very, very important and needed. We deeply appreciate your caring support.

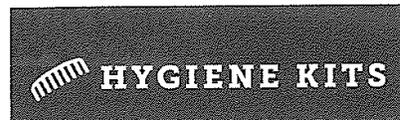
Any questions, contact a CWS committee member:  
Betty Applin, Ruth Gilbert, Ginny Withee, & Nancy Roby &  
*Sally Howe*



#### SUPPLIES NEEDED:

- One pair of blunt scissors (Rounded tip only. Remove from packaging.)
- Three 70-count bound notebooks or notebooks totaling 200-210 pages (No loose-leaf or filler paper.)
- One 30-centimeter, 12" ruler
- One hand-held pencil sharpener (Remove from packaging.)
- One large eraser (No pencil cap erasers.)
- Six new, unsharpened pencils with erasers (Remove from packaging and use a rubber band to hold the pencils together.)
- One box of 24 crayons
- One 12"x14" to 14"x17" finished size cotton or lightweight canvas bag with handles (solid color or kid-friendly fabric. No logos, reusable shopping bags or backpacks)

Items must be packed inside of the bag. The MyShopAngel website has an affordable CWS Kit bag option for bulk purchase. **Scan the QR code** below or visit [cwskits.org/bag](http://cwskits.org/bag) to order.



#### SUPPLIES NEEDED:

- One hand towel measuring approximately 15"x28" to 16"x32" (No fingertip, bath, dish, or micro-fiber towels.)
- One washcloth
- One wide-tooth comb removed from the package (Found at discount dealers like [sallybeauty.com](http://sallybeauty.com).)
  - Must be sturdy with at least 6" of teeth
  - No pocket combs or picks
  - Rattail and combs without handles are acceptable
- One fingernail or toenail clipper (Either one is acceptable. Remove from packaging.)
- One bath size bar of soap in the original package
- One toothbrush in the original package
- Ten standard size Band-Aids

All items must fit inside a one-gallon Ziploc type bag. Remove the excess air from the bag and seal before boxing. Do not add any extra items or toothpaste. A tube of extended expiration date toothpaste will be added to each hygiene kit just prior to its journey.



### **Current In-Person Worship Protocol:**

1. Capacity limits are lifted.
2. Masks will be optional during most of the service.
3. Masks will still be required for singing.
4. Speakers at the pulpit, including the minister, will not be required to wear a mask.
5. Collection plates will be passed by ushers. When possible, ushers will hold the plates as people place their offerings into them.

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### **Weekly Offering - You're Support Makes our Ministry Possible! Thank you!!**

Offerings to support and sustain the ministries of our church can be placed in the offering plate by the front doors of the sanctuary on Sunday or they can be mailed to the church office at:

First Congregational Church  
P.O. Box 350  
Wiscasset, ME 04578.

**Thank you for your continued support!**



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### **Love Makes a Way 2022 Stewardship Campaign**

Thanks to everyone who has pledged at this time! It's never too late to pledge. If you have not yet confirmed your pledge, please send it to the office at the earliest convenience. Your financial pledge is a tremendous help to our financial stability.

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Thank you to the Anonymous Donor for your generous contribution to support our worship music.

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## MAINE HEARTS AND HANDS FOR HAITI

Due to COVID the 2021 and 2022  
Haiti Benefit Dinners have been cancelled . . .  
. . . but needs in Haiti are URGENT



The Lincoln County Ecumenical Committee for Haiti (LCECFH)  
has launched a

### 2022 Lenten **gofundme** Campaign

ALL PROCEEDS go directly to support the people of Gros  
Morne, Haiti to help with scholarships, school lunches and  
supplies, agricultural projects, eldercare and more.

Please visit <https://gofund.me/d8ea93cf>

To donate by credit/debit card

Send checks (payable to LCECFH) to:  
PO Box 1003 Damariscotta, ME 04543

It is once again time to order Easter Flowers to decorate our sanctuary for the celebration of Christ's Resurrection. Easter is on April 17<sup>th</sup>, so **orders for 6" lilies, tulips, daffodils or 4" hyacinths must be in to the church office by Thursday March 31st.** Prices are listed below. Please return this form with payment (checks to First Congregational Church with the notation "Easter Flowers").

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

# \_\_\_\_\_ Lily 6" - \$10.00 In honor/memory of  
\_\_\_\_\_

# \_\_\_\_\_ Tulip 6" - \$9.00 In honor/memory of  
\_\_\_\_\_

# \_\_\_\_\_ Daffodils - \$10.00 In honor/memory of  
\_\_\_\_\_

# \_\_\_\_\_ Hyacinths 4" - \$5.00 In honor/memory of  
\_\_\_\_\_

Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Flowers can be taken home after Easter. Remaining flowers will be delivered to members of the community who must work on Easter (police officers, firemen/women, nurses, caregivers, etc.) as an expression of our gratitude for their service.

## Chime In

“God is able to provide you with every blessing, so that having all sufficiency in all things at all times, you may abound in every good work.” II Corinthians 9:8

Many of you have participated in one of the discussion groups and completed the survey. Both activities are vital work as we move forward as a congregation seeking new leadership. But in equal share the work we must do in discerning who God is calling us to be. What is this light we shine in Wiscasset? As the Search Committee begins to engage with potential candidates in the Fall of this year, one of the central points of the conversations will be a detailed description of who we are as a community of faith. What are our values, attitudes and beliefs? There is much work to be done to be able to answer these questions faithfully, I encourage you to take Paul's assurances to the fledgling church in Corinth as a message to the First Congregational church of Wiscasset. As you dream of the future here in Maine, do so with these assurances in mind. And share your thoughts, hopes, and highest aspirations with each other and the search committee. Yes, some things are beyond our grasp, but how do we know what we can achieve if we never reach for our dreams?

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## Summerfest is just around the corner!

It doesn't feel like it but we will soon be gathering our donations and planning out the details of our 2022 **SUMMERFEST**. Last year was a great success and we hope for even better this year. However, the **Jewelry** table was so successful last year (over \$600!) that we have very little left to display and sell this year. This is a plea for everyone to sit down, pull out your jewelry boxes and bags of odds and ends (interesting hats, scarves, purses) and begin to go through them. Surely, you'll find things that you no longer wear and that you're not sentimentally attached to. When you do, put them aside for our table at **SUMMERFEST** in July. Last year we sold several nice silver pieces for a very good price. We have raised prices on everything because, to be honest, we had been practically giving things away and that was not getting us to our goal of helping more local non-profits. So take a

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## *Summerfest Yard Sale*

Yard sale items can be brought starting on April 12 during office hours (Tuesday - Thursday 9 to noon). Last year several of us spent hours in the basement unpacking boxes, sorting things, and repacking boxes. So that doesn't happen this year please bring items boxed together by category - kitchen, decor (knick-knacks, lamps, vases), seasonal, games and puzzles, toys, outdoor, gardening, pets, or other category that you have to bring. Or, if you bring a box of mixed items, sort out the items by category and place them on the appropriately marked table. Please do not bring items that are broken, chipped, stained, or otherwise not fit for selling; throw them away. If you have items that you think are particularly valuable, place them on the Treasures table. Better yet, if you can sell them on your own they will probably bring in more money which you can simply donate to Summerfest. If you have questions please contact Beth Maxwell at 882-6180, or Ann Light at [lighthouse6japan@yahoo.com](mailto:lighthouse6japan@yahoo.com).

## **Current Volunteer Needs**

1.Rev. Oscar Wallace needs a partner to help with our Youth Sunday School.

Anyone interested? Contact Oscar at 508-207-3537 or oscar.wallace@gmail.com

2.The church needs Bell Ringers. If you are interested please contact Brad Adler at 882-9804 or by email at badler1965@gmail.com

3. On line services have been a God-send to many people. The technology that makes this possible is fairly simple. If you can help on Sunday mornings, please contact the church.

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## **Katie Junkert talks to the Organ Society about Amistad and Portland's Syringe Exchange Program**

On Wednesday March 23rd, Katie Junkert met with members of the Organ Society to relate her job in Portland dealing with homelessness and drug abuse. Amistad has recently established a small office on India Street where Katie can meet with clients and store supplies for her work. Yesterday, in one day, she gave out 3,000 syringes in the exchange program. Approximately 60 percent of her clients are homeless, mostly a result of childhood trauma by the clients who avoid living in shelters or housing. Two hotels in the South Portland region will be closing to homeless clients leaving 200 people looking for a new place to stay. Mental Health issues and substance abuse are linked together, one a contributing factor to the other. "It's not the addiction, it's the pain," Katie Junkert said. Users are trying to escape their pain and stress of everyday life. Amistad is meeting with Lincoln County officials to expand their support personnel programs in the area. There is no syringe exchange program in Lincoln County. A peer support program would establish a conversation and connection with users to help lead them to services. In 2021, there were 631 overdose deaths in Maine. There were thousands of nonfatal overdoses last year.

We can continue to support Katie and Amistad with donations of clothing, especially socks and t-shirts, and chocolates. There is a plastic box in the Fellowship coat rack area where you may place your donation. Thank You Katie !



Meeting House Chimes  
First Congregational Church, U.C.C.  
P.O. Box 350, 28 High Street  
Wiscasset, ME 04578

April 2022



**First Congregational Church  
United Church of Christ  
28 High Street, PO Box 350  
Wiscasset, Maine 04578**

**We welcome you to the First  
Congregational Church of Wiscasset.  
We are an open and affirming  
congregation and are open  
theologically, growing spiritually, and  
concerned socially.**

