

## First Congregational Church Weekly Newsletter

East Longmeadow, MA

April 16, 2025

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# HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE



## Maundy Thursday: April 17

6 pm. Soup and Bread dinner

7 pm. Tenebrae Service

Scripture readings & Communion

## Easter Sunday: April 20

10 am. Easter Service

uplifting music and message

All are invited! All are welcome!

**SUNDAY WORSHIP** in the sanctuary or live stream at any of the following locations:

- On our church website: [www.churchontherotary.org/sermon](http://www.churchontherotary.org/sermon)
- On our church YouTube page: [www.youtube.com/@churchontherotary/live](http://www.youtube.com/@churchontherotary/live)
- On our church Facebook page: [www.facebook.com/churchontherotary](http://www.facebook.com/churchontherotary)

## **SPRING PLANT SALE**



It's that time again! Time to take out those shovels and start to dig plants, shrubs, trees, whatever you could contribute to the spring plant sale which will be held on Mother's Day weekend, Saturday, May 10 from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

We will also be having a great bake sale, with free coffee.

Any garden-related items would be appreciated for our garden-related tag sale (pots, vases, gardening books, shovels, statuary, bird houses and the like). So please see what items that you could donate.

Lunch will be available for sale. Bring your appetites!

You will hear more from those who are heading baked goods, tag

sale items, etc. in the coming weeks. The sale is coming fast and we have to pray for exceptional weather. Either way, rain or shine, it will go on!

Thanks so much in advance for your participation,

*The Spring Plant Sale committee*

## Your MISSION and OUTREACH BOARD has room for one or two more ...

Feel that you have the heart to offer help to others in our area, as well as (can you believe it?) the world?

Working on our committee is truly rewarding. You really can make a difference in someone else's life. In this last year we have contributed food, money or goods to Kensington School, the YWCA, the Springfield Rescue Mission, and little girls in Africa. We have collected dollars for OGHS, Blankets, Tools, Neighbors in Need, EL Food pantry and Fuel fund, and the Open Pantry. We even delivered cookies to EL police and fire departments.

We meet the first Monday of most months at 10 in the church library. Any questions talk to Marilyn, Bobbie, Donna, Alice or Terrie (not for women only). All our work gives us great satisfaction and joy, please join us!

## PLENTY OF COOKIES!!!

Your Mission and Outreach Committee was so excited to deliver 8 trays of delicious cookies, as well as "thank you notes" to our wonderful town employees. We surprised the police and fire departments and all appreciated the kindness of our always generous congregation.

Thanks to all who baked such an amazing variety of cookies and bars.

## Silver Lake Summer Camp Schedule and Registration is available!

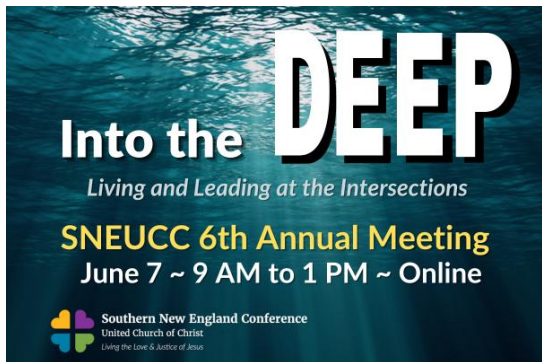


This summer, there will be five week-long camp sessions (Sun. - Sat.), for students who will be entering Grades 4-12 in the Fall. Camps will run from June 22<sup>nd</sup> through the week of July 20<sup>th</sup>. There will also be a 1/2-week "Family Camp" open to all ages, with multi-generational events and activities, from Sunday, June 22<sup>nd</sup> - 25<sup>th</sup>.

Silver Lake is a place for everyone to experience nature, make new friends, and explore their faith. Since 1957, thousands of children, youth, and adults have enjoyed Silver Lake, and all it has to offer! Set on more than 60 acres of wooded land on the shore of Mudge Pond in Sharon, CT, Silver Lake is a wonderful place to worship, learn, play, serve and work with others in a safe and inspiring environment.

In order to make camp affordable for every family, there is a 3-tiered financial scale (pay whichever cost will work for your family). There is also additional "scholarship" money available, if the cost would be too much for your family. In addition, for first-time campers, there is a "New Camper" Discount. Register between now, and April 30<sup>th</sup>, and use the code: NewCamper25 to receive a \$75 discount on the cost of each camper's registration.

For more information, descriptions for each camp session, dates, and costs, click <https://silverlakect.org/campsessions>



## 6th Annual Meeting of the Southern New England Conference of the UCC

Into the DEEP: Living at the Intersection (of Service and Justice)

Saturday, June 7th, 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM (Online only, via Zoom)

An opportunity to join with folks from our Conference for worship, conducting the business of the Conference, and celebrating our work together as congregations of the Southern New England Conference of the United Church of Christ.

The Keynote speaker for the event will be Jamar Doyle, President and CEO of the Council for Health and Human Service Ministries.

Our church is allowed to have three representatives (and one clergy person) who are allowed to vote at the meeting. Everyone is welcome to attend. If you would like to serve as a voting delegate, representing our church, please let Olan Johnston know of your interest ASAP.

For more information, and to register, go to [www.sneucc.org/2025AM](http://www.sneucc.org/2025AM)



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