



# FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF BERLIN

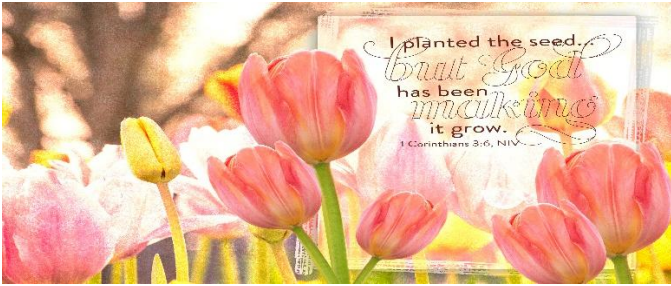
1808 Scott Hill Road, Berlin, VT 05602 ~ 802-229-0338

"No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here." ✝ That they may all be one. ~ John 17:21

## Corner Chronicle for April 2026

### An Inclusive, Open & Affirming Church

#### From the Pastor's Desk



#### A Season of New Life

As winter fades and the beauty of spring begins to emerge around us, we are reminded of the promise of new life that God brings into the world. The budding trees, warmer days, and longer sunlight echo the message of Easter—that through Christ, life, hope, and renewal are always possible. Spring invites us to open our hearts again to the transforming grace of God.

April will be a special month in the life of our church as we gather to remember Christ's love and celebrate His resurrection together.

We invite everyone to join us for our **Maundy Thursday Service on April 2 at 6:00 PM**, where we will share a simple meal, and reflect on the Last Supper and the powerful command Jesus gave His disciples to love one another. This meaningful service prepares our hearts for the journey to the cross and the joy that follows.

On **Easter Sunday**, we will begin the day with our **Sunrise Service at 6:00 AM**, greeting the dawn as we celebrate the risen Christ. There is something deeply moving about proclaiming "He is risen!" as the sun rises and the world awakens. We will meet at the church at 5:45 and travel to the worship site.

Later that morning, we will gather again for our **Easter Worship Service at 9:30 AM**, a joyful celebration filled with music, prayer, and the good news of resurrection. Easter reminds us that hope is

never lost and that God's love is stronger than death.

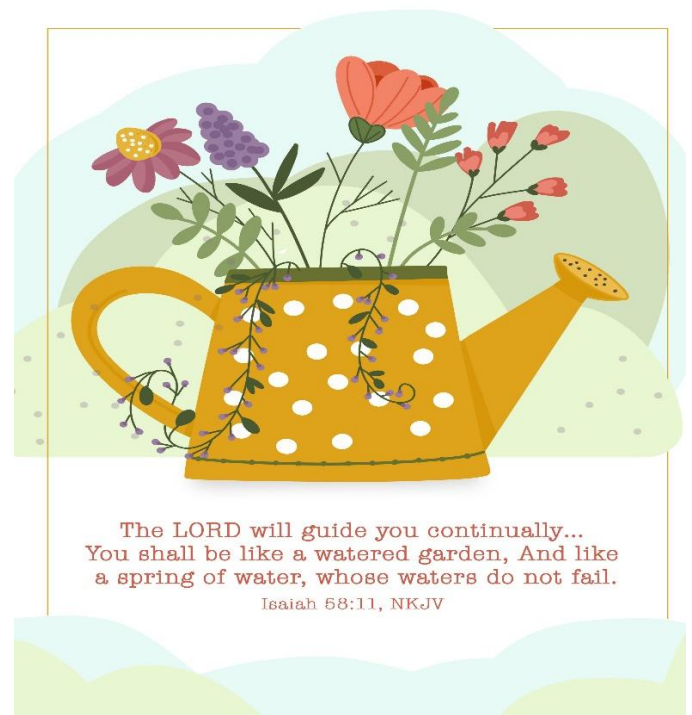
In addition to our Easter celebrations, we continue to grow together in faith through our **Bible Study held on Thursdays at 6:00 PM on Zoom**. This is a wonderful opportunity to connect, learn, and explore scripture together from the comfort of home. All are welcome, whether you have been attending for years or are joining for the first time.

As the world around us comes alive with spring, may we also experience spiritual renewal. Just as flowers bloom and the earth awakens, God invites each of us into a season of new life, deeper faith, and renewed hope.

We look forward to worshiping, learning, and celebrating together throughout this beautiful season.

Grace and peace to you this spring.

Pastor Doug





## Worship Lay Readers and Ushers

**April 05** - Reader - Laura Cadmus

Usher - Ginger Anderson & Aileen Peake

**April 12** - Reader - Karen Foote

Usher - Gary & Linda Isham

**April 19** - Reader - Ginger Anderson

Usher - Cheryl Poor

**April 26** - Reader - Blair Austin-Bradley

Usher - Joan Garcia

Easter Bake Sale: **Saturday March 28**, 10 AM to 2 PM. Quiches, Pies and Easter desserts. Located in the Parish Hall.

Palm Sunday Service: **Sunday March 29** at 9:30

Maundy Thursday Tenebrae Service with soup and bread in the Parish Hall. **Thursday April 2**, at 6 PM

Easter Sunrise Service: **April 5** at 6 am at Sue Rich's house. 575 Hill St. Extension, Berlin VT. Meet at church at 5:45 to carpool to Sue's house.

Easter Service: **April 5** at 9:30 AM.

Fresh start with Bible Study on ZOOM **Thursday April 9**, 6 PM to 7 PM

Council Meeting: **April 19** following the service

## Lectionary Readings

**Sun Apr 05: Resurrection of the Lord**

Acts 10:34-43, Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24, Colossians 3:1-4, John 20:1-18

**Sun Apr 12: Second Sunday of Easter**

Acts 2:14a, 22-32, Psalm 16, 1 Peter 1:3-9, John 20:19-31

**Sun Apr 19: Third Sunday of Easter**

Acts 2:14a, 36-41, Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19, 1 Peter 1:17-23, Luke 24:13-35

**Sun Apr 26: Fourth Sunday of Easter**

Acts 2:42-47, Psalm 23, 1 Peter 2:19-25, John 10:1-10



## Birthday

4/03 - Kristine Crompton

4/03 - Madison Woodard

4/04 - Rick Theken

4/08 - Dalton Cody

4/09 - Michael & James Chartrand

4/09 - Milly & Ren Launderville

4/13 - Barb Chapin

4/14 - Nancy (Tripp) Wood

4/19 - Ann Mullen VanBenachoten

4/23 - Ryan Gariboldi

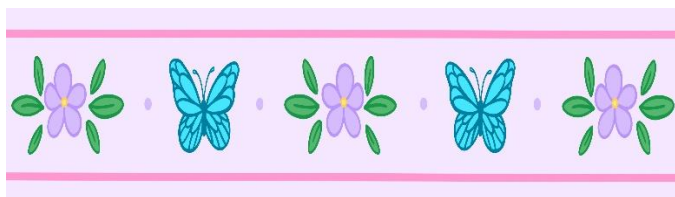
4/24 - Shannon Adams

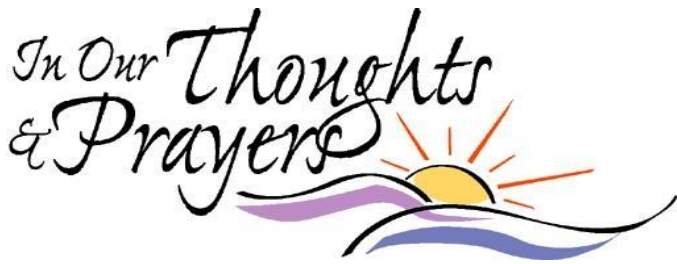
4/25 - Erin Schober

4/25 - Ellen Moody

## Anniversaries

None





**Joys:** the many local athletes enjoying sports successes this time of year

**For FCCB family & friends:** Clarice (Thanna's sister), travel mercies for Dottie (friend of Paula) Krysta Z. (Sally's granddaughter), Isaiah (Dalton's friend), Barb C., Paul and Jeff (Pastor Doug's golf buddies), Trina N., travel mercies for Vicky & husband (Mary's daughter), Matthew A-B, Donna T. & Peter H., Thanna A., Pastor Doug and Donna C. as medical procedures near, Ian L., Andy L., Erin M., Dan H., Denise R., Marilyn (Rick's sister), Paul in California, Kevin G., Brenda C., Lesley, Eli, Logan C., Ray and Cindy C., Jordan's son, Yolanda, Pastor Doug's sister and niece, Jeanine K.

**For the loss of a loved one, the families of:** Bernard Turner, Stephen Murphy, Elaine Thomas, Brian Powell, the 9 skiers lost in the Lake Tahoe avalanche, Nancy Z., Joanne Bowles, Chad Duprey (Barb C.'s grandson), Karl Boisvert, Joanne Martin, the 7 crew members of the fishing boat from Gloucester, MA, Larry Miller, Marilyn (Linda I.'s sister)

**For our members and friends in residential and independent care facilities:** Janet (friend of Pastor Doug's), Chuck, Jamin, Elaine, Anita, Sandy, Ann, Renata, Marvie, Toni, Sue, Steve

**For our World:** innocent victims (children and their families), prayers for PEACE: in the Middle East, for our leaders, our country and Constitution, remember those who fought/still fight for racial justice, people struggling due to severe cold weather, the people of Minneapolis (especially Ginger's friend Jerry), the people of Venezuela and our service people there, victims of mass shootings, all military service people, food shelves & support services (and those who work there), storms that surround our country and world, starvation in Gaza, Ukraine, homeless communities in VT, all those battling cancer, mental illness, domestic violence and substance abuse.

## Finance, Stewardship & Trustees

### A Note from the Music Director

### Worship & Church Life

**Deacon's Fund** - Deacons Fund donations will be collected on Communion Sundays. There are special envelopes in the Pew holders. If you are writing a check make it out to the First Congregational Church of Berlin and indicate on the memo line Deacons Fund. Donations can be made anytime by putting it into the Sunday collection basket or mailing check to the church at PO Box 1157, Montpelier, VT 05601.

### Deacons Fund Committee

Gordon Clow, Andy Lacasse and Joan Verchereau

### Pastoral Relations Committee

Ellen Moody, Andy Lacasse, Blair Austin-Bradley, Thanna Adams

### Faith Formation

### Missions & Outreach



Tatum's Totes - the collection for April is books - needed for all ages. Must be new. Board books, picture books, chapter books, "I Can Read" books, teen appropriate novels.

Thank you to all who donated goods or money toward the March collection of socks!

\*\*\*Per Green Mountain United Way - all items donated must be new / unused items. They cannot accept used items\*\*\*

When donating by cash or check please clearly mark that it is for Tatum's Totes and who it is from. You may give your monetary donation to Rob or place in the collection basket or mail to FCCB so that the donation can be accounted for.

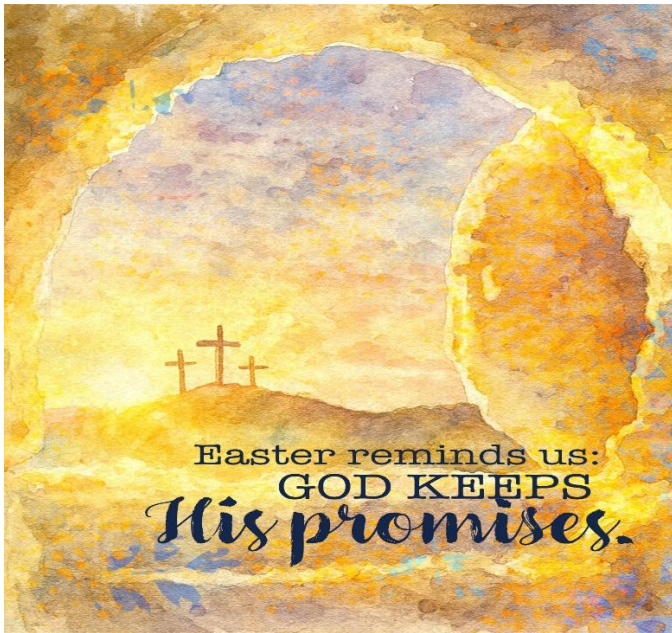
When donating goods please include a total dollar value. The GMUW gives us a monthly statement with the estimated cash value of all goods received that month.

Please contact Joan Verchereau if you have questions about this mission.

## Admin and Communication

\*\*\*\*\*Check it out - the FCCB web page

<http://www.fccbvt.org>



## FCCB Pastor Contact information

Pastor Doug Cameron  
Email: [dougc9927@gmail.com](mailto:dougc9927@gmail.com)  
Home: 802-276-3404  
Cell: 802-356-0578  
Office Hours: Wednesdays 10:00a - 2:00p

## Council Members 2026

COUNCIL CHAIR & MODERATOR - Ellen Moody,  
[ellenmoody777@gmail.com](mailto:ellenmoody777@gmail.com), 802-522-7728

VICE CHAIR - Ginger Anderson,  
[quedaV06@gmail.com](mailto:quedaV06@gmail.com), 802-229-1665

TREASURER - Rob Griffin, [griffinsuter@hotmail.com](mailto:griffinsuter@hotmail.com),  
802-272-2376

ADMINISTRATION & COMMUNICATION and CLERK -  
Karen Foote, [kbf789@aol.com](mailto:kbf789@aol.com), 802-223-7286

MISSIONS & OUTREACH - Heather Mensah,  
[withheather@yahoo.com](mailto:withheather@yahoo.com), 617-780-2458

FINANCE, STEWARDSHIP & TRUSTEES - Rob Griffin,  
[griffinsuter@hotmail.com](mailto:griffinsuter@hotmail.com), 802-272-2376 and Gary  
Isham, [glisham@yahoo.com](mailto:glisham@yahoo.com), 802-917-8027

WORSHIP & CHURCH LIFE - Carole Lacasse,  
[calacasse@netscape.com](mailto:calacasse@netscape.com), 802-229-9504

FAITH FORMATION - Beth Cody,  
[codyscastle@gmail.com](mailto:codyscastle@gmail.com), 802-279-5921

MEMBER-AT-LARGE - Mary Ellen Hill,  
[meqhill@yahoo.com](mailto:meqhill@yahoo.com), 802-279-8704

MEMBER-AT-LARGE - Nancy Fowler,  
[fowler5vt@gmail.com](mailto:fowler5vt@gmail.com), 802-477-2715

FCCB email address:  
[firstcongregationalchurchberlin@yahoo.com](mailto:firstcongregationalchurchberlin@yahoo.com)

FCCB Mailing Address:  
PO Box 1157, Montpelier, VT 05601

*The Vision of First Congregational  
Church of Berlin is to be a friendly,  
inviting spiritual home that practices  
the deep caring of Jesus within the  
congregation and in the wider  
community*

## The Joy of the Resurrection



We Christians simply cannot get over the reality of the Resurrection. For us, the fact that God raised Christ from the dead proves that Christ's way alone is God's answer to the sins and horrors of the world. The truths Christ taught when he walked on earth stand solid and irrefutable. The light he brought is the only light that never goes out, for it is the eternal light of God's glory. Christ's life is the clearest example of how God intends for us to live. His way is the way that makes the most sense for our lives on this earth. The saints throughout history have shown that again and again.

The hope Christ offers is the only true and lasting hope. Ultimately, it is our assurance that life can be good and joy-filled for all. Consider the words St. Paul wrote to the church at Rome and apply them to your own life: "Just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life. For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his" (Romans 6:4-5, NRSV).

If that is not a tremendous cause for abiding joy, then what is?

**Yes, I can!**

I cannot end poverty, but I can feed one hungry person. I cannot stop war, but I can offer peace to my neighbor. I cannot prevent death, but I can hold the hand of someone who is dying.

These may seem like small acts, yet they are far harder—and far more meaningful—than any grand plan for social change. Christ reminds us of their worth: "Whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me" (Matthew 25:40, NIV).