



FROM THE PASTOR

"Then God said ..."

-Genesis 1:3

Two days ago, I officiated at the funeral of a member of the church I served before coming here – The Riverside Congregational Church, UCC. Her name was Pat and she was a remarkable person. You would have loved her. Some years ago, when the UCC initiated a program called, "God Is Still Speaking," Pat took it to heart. The comedian and actor, George Burns, discovered the phrase in a letter his wife, Gracie Allen, left for him before she passed away. Gracie's full quote was,

"Never place a period where God has placed a comma: God is still speaking,"

A few weeks before Pat died, her family and friends got "comma" tattoos as a sign of solidarity. Pat left a message on my voicemail: "Guess what my crazy family just did!" I called her back a day or two later, but by then she was unable to answer the phone. At her funeral, a large banner with a comma and the "Still Speaking" phrase was hung by the pulpit.

The Riverside church is without a pastor right now, which is why I was willing to step in for the day. It's not something I would normally do, but they're in a tough spot. A lot of churches are these days. 70% of US congregations are in decline. Many churches have closed. Pat told me she stood up at a congregational meeting last year and declared, "I think it's time we vote to close the church", but no one agreed with her. It was a, "God is not done with us yet - God is still speaking" moment. A lot of people who had drifted away from the church in recent years somehow managed to drift back for Pat's funeral and filled the house. For the day at least, people were still listening to what God was still saying.

Our church is directly impacted by the uncertainty of these times, too. Being a small church in a complex, rapidly changing world with big issues is daunting. There may be times some or all of us wonder how our church will be able to continue as things just keep getting more expensive and so many people are losing focus, absorbed by their small screens and social media accounts. Some are even professing that Ai is their new "religion". These times, they are a-changing.

We may be tempted at times to throw our hands in the air and give up. After all, what can any of us do about this? How can a church survive in such a world? It's an honest concern, but still, I wonder if maybe we're asking the wrong questions. Faith has much less to do with what we can hang on to or accomplish by our own grit and determination and a lot more to do with what God can accomplish in us. When we admit we don't have the answers, therein lies the possibility that we'll turn our hearts and hopes to the One who does. Maybe if we turn down the noise, even our own, we'll better hear what God is saying. It is there that all things become possible.

God is always about to do a new thing – God is the Creator yet. What new things can happen in our personal lives and in our church? Now there's a good question. God is still speaking and this is an especially good time to be listening.

Peace and Blessings,
Rev Dave



The Congregational Church in Killingworth
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

let's
Worship
together



@ 10 a.m.

Worship In-Person, Zoom,
or Facebook

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February Calendar



*Go to Facebook.com and search for: Killingworth Congregational Church
OR *Go to Zoom.us using the link below.

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/85206365646?pwd=Lb bF4pFbwogAfO90CaLXuvsJvxrltX.1>



Bright Spot in the Week Bible Study

Wednesdays @ 7pm
Parish Hall or Join Remote

BIBLE STUDY

Each Wednesday, Rev. Dave hosts a live Bible study broadcast from church focused on the scriptures for the coming Sunday's worship service. You can ask questions, make comments, and share prayer requests.

Each study will be followed by prayer.

Join in-person or watch through Facebook or Zoom.

Zoom Link to join the meeting: You can sign in 10 minutes early.

Online Zoom link: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81447487180?pwd=tofZcZFyPvXFxCMnKUQLpTZiao8V5j.1>

Let all that you
do be done in

Love

1 Corinthians 16:14



Use the QR Code to
connect quickly and
safely to our Giving
link.

Thank you for your
continued generosity!



Sunday School Corner

For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God.

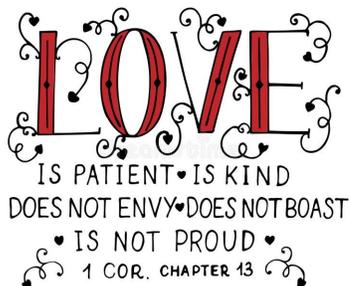
Romans 8:14

Hello Sunday School Students and Families,

In mid-February students will begin their Lent journey. During the time of Lent, we will focus our learning on prayer, fasting, and giving to others. It is a meaningful time of learning leading up to Easter. There are several events during this time- March 29th will be the Easter workshop and Easter Egg hunt, April 2nd will be the Seder dinner and Maundy Thursday service, and April 5th is Easter (no Sunday School on that day).

Save the date for Vacation Bible School- TBD based on school snow days, but likely the week of June 22nd. Hope you can join us!

Best,
Christine Link
Volunteer Christian Education Chairperson
Christinelax@hotmail.com



KWO Sponsored Pump Up Your Heart Thursday, February 26

The Senior Connections committee from the Killingworth Women's Organization (KWO), in partnership with Big Y, is having a Pump Up Your Heart nutrition event on Thursday, February 26, 2026 at the Congregation Church in Killingworth from 11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

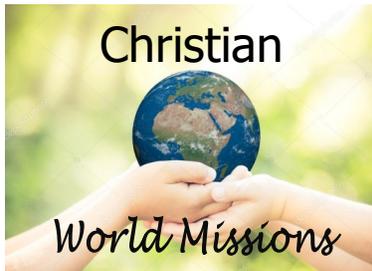
The presenter will be Natalie A. Webb, Consulting Dietician for Big Y, who will discuss how an eating plan could boost your heart rate. The discussion will identify how to eat healthily if you are trying to prevent future heart problems, are living with high blood pressure, or have a heart problem such as atrial fibrillation.

The session is free and registration can be made by using the following links. Fill out the brief registration form: <https://form.jotform.com/260155996821061> Remember to hit **Submit**. We hope to see you there!

CHRISTIAN WORLD MISSIONS

In reply he said to them, 'Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise.'

Luke 3:11



Eddy House Dinners

Tuesdays,
February 10 & 24

The Eddy House is a 30+ bed emergency homeless shelter for men and women of Middlesex County.

Each second and fourth Tuesday, contributions to the monthly meals such as desserts, breads, and sides (salad, soup, veggies, casseroles) are always gratefully accepted.

Always needed and appreciated: Warm clothes, jackets, socks, twin sheets, comforters, bottled water and “grab and go” foods like protein bars, granola bars, fruit, nuts, cheese sticks. Contact Paulie Lally to offer donations or to help deliver the meal.



AARP Tax-Aide Appointments Begins February 10

AARP trained volunteers will be available for **free and confidential tax preparation**. Appointment scheduling will begin early February.

There are two ways to make an appointment:

1) Online at https://www.aarp.org/money/taxes/aarp_taxaide/locations.html and search for any of the location sites (Old Saybrook, Westbrook, Killingworth, or Clinton)

OR

2) by calling 860-579-3192. The volunteer making the appointment will remind you of what to bring to your appointment (e.g., last year's return; all 2025 forms such as Social Security, W-2s, 1099-Rs, unemployment, bank and brokerage statements, and a voided check if you would like direct deposit or direct withdrawal.)

* Note that Tax-Aide volunteers cannot prepare returns for taxpayers who changed their state of primary residence during 2025 or for taxpayers who run a business with inventory, depreciation, or a loss.

Prayer for Ash Wednesday

Create in me a clean heart,
O God; and put a new
spirit within me.

- Psalm 51:10

Flowers for the Altar

Each week, families and/or individuals will have an opportunity to provide flowers for the altar. They may be given in honor of or in memory of someone you love. The name of the person who is being honored or memorialized will appear in the weekly announcements. It is a lovely way to bring that special someone to our church family's attention.



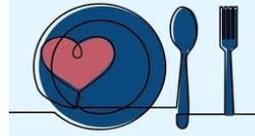
Please contact the church office with the date you will provide flowers. Thank you.

**Are you celebrating a special date
or event in your life?**

Please share it with us so we may give
thanks to God
and celebrate with you.

Email your notice to
office@killingworthchurch.org by the
15th of each month.

CELEBRATE!



Killingworth Café A Senior Community Luncheon

Come to the church hall each Wednesday at
12pm for a hot, nutritious lunch.
Call in your lunch reservations to
860-388-1611, x216, **before 11:00 A.M**
the day prior to when you wish to have lunch.
Suggested donation is \$3 per meal.

Hosted by The Estuary Center of Old Saybrook

CALL TO THE ANNUAL MEETING

Notice is hereby given of the Annual Meeting of The Congregational Church in Killingworth, UCC to be held according to the By-Laws during the month of February. The meeting will be held on Sunday, February 22, 2026 immediately following the worship service.

The meeting is called for the following purposes:

1. To approve the minutes of the Fall Meeting of October 26, 2025.
2. To receive current reports from boards, committees, and officers.
3. To elect officers, committees, and board personnel.
4. To approve the financial budget for 2026.
5. To vote on the proposed amendments to the By-laws.
6. To transact any other business proper to come before the meeting.

Leslie Judge, Clerk
January 1, 2026

2026 CHURCH DIRECTORY (MEMBERS & FRIENDS)
AND MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

We would like **everyone** to fill out this update form and return it to the church office
NO LATER THAN FEB 8. Please include all information requested.

Add additional notes if needed.

If the "Include in Directory?" line is **NOT** marked, the info **will not be included.**

The information provided is for church use only.

Name(s) (all family members attending)

Address _____

Home Phone _____ Include in Directory? Y or N

Cell Phone _____

Belongs to _____ Include in Directory? Y or N

Cell Phone _____

Belongs to _____ Include in Directory? Y or N

E-mail Address(es) _____

_____ Include in Directory? Y or N

Birthdays _____

This form is also available online at www.killingworthchurch.org



- | | | | |
|---------|--------------------|---------|---------------------|
| Feb. 1 | Gayle Skelly | Feb. 15 | Matt Link |
| Feb. 2 | Marilyn Campbell | Feb. 21 | Rev. Dave Hammett |
| Feb. 2 | Clare Link | Feb. 22 | Geoff Cook |
| Feb. 4 | Dawn Tischbein | | Rachel Schemmerling |
| Feb. 5 | Gavin Tyrseck | Feb. 23 | Evelyn Burley |
| Feb. 7 | Anthony Aeschliman | | Bruce Gagliardi |
| Feb. 9 | Emily Eldredge | | Parker Smith |
| | River Gersz | Feb. 26 | Peter Cumpstone |
| Feb. 11 | Shelly Cumpstone | | |

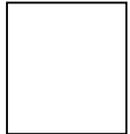
February 2026

The Congregational Church In Killingworth, UCC

Feb 2026 (Eastern Time - New York)

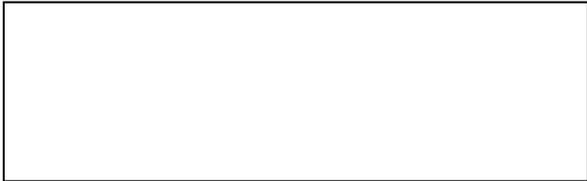
| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|---|-----------------------|--|--|-------------------------------------|-----|--|
| 1 10am - Worship 11am - Fellowship | 2 | 3 9am - Tax Aide 7pm - Boy Scouts | 4 12pm - Cafe 7pm - Bible Study 7:30pm - AA | 5 7pm - AA | 6 | 7 |
| 8 Due: Directory 10am - Worship 11am - Fellowship | 9 | 10 9am - Tax Aide 3pm - Eddy House 7pm - Boy Scouts | 11 12pm - Cafe 7pm - Bible Study 7:30pm - AA | 12 7pm - AA 7pm - Council | 13 | 14 Valentine's Day  |
| 15 10am - Worship 11am - Fellowship | 16 President's Day | 17 9am - Tax Aide 7pm - Boy Scouts | 18 Ash Wednesday 12pm - Cafe 7pm - Ash Wed. 7:30pm - AA  | 19 6:30pm - Trustees 7pm - AA | 20 | 21 |
| 22 10am - Worship 11am - Fellowship 11:15am - Annual | 23 | 24 9am - Tax Aide 3pm - Eddy House 7pm - Boy Scouts | 25 8:30am - Mens 12pm - Cafe 7pm - Bible Study 7:30pm - AA | 26 11am - Pump.. 7pm - AA | 27 | 28 |

The Congregational Church in Killingworth, UCC
273 Route 81
Killingworth, CT 06419



*** STAFF ***

| | |
|------------------------------------|-------------------|
| Minister | Rev. Dave Hammett |
| Volunteer Musician | Joann Zamparo |
| Volunteer Director of Christian Ed | Christine Link |
| Office Manager | Maureen Alfiero |
| Sexton | Matt Link |



Church Office Hours:
Tuesday - Thursday 8am—12pm
Extended hours by appointment
860/663-1789



Website: www.killingworthchurch.org
Email address: office@killingworthchurch.org
Rev Dave email: RevDaveCCK@gmail.com



KERYGMA ESTABLISHED 1966
Deadline for the next issue is no later than
February 15, 2026
If you do not wish to receive the Kerygma,
please email or call the office.

KERYGMA

10 a.m. Worship

February 2026



The Congregational Church in Killingworth
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

WE LOVE
BECAUSE *he first*
LOVED US
JOHN 4:19


ASH
WEDNESDAY
February 18th