



The Church Caller

A monthly publication of the Ellington Congregational Church, UCC November 2023

Sunday Worship 10:00 / Church School 10:00
Intentional Interim Pastor Joanne Myer
Director of Music Julie LaRocca
Director of Faith Formation Lee Carman

Whoever you are and wherever you
are on your faith journey,
you are welcome here!



Upcoming Events

Visit www.eccucc.org for details



Farmhouse Fair
November 3 & 4, 2023
3rd: 5:00 pm - 8:00 pm
4th: 9:00 am - 2:00 pm



Friendship Class
November 7, 2023
1:00 pm - Rm 201



Thanksgiving Food
Drive Collection
November 12, 2023
10:00 am



Prayer Shawl
November 16, 2023
9:30 am - Social Room



All Church Pot Luck
November 18, 2023
5:00 pm - Social Room



River Rock Dedication
November 19, 2023
10:00 am



New Member Class
November 19, 2023
11:30 am - Social Room



Thanksgiving &
Hanging of the Greens
November 26, 2023



Mission Collection
November 26, 2023
Socks, Towels & Washcloths



Worship in New
Directions
November 22, 2023
7:00 pm

From Pastor Joanne's recent sermon:

"You have all been working really hard to grow in your learning about God's "Right way for Living." You have been working hard to evaluate the past, examine the present, and to change with the times in the best ways possible to reach out to everyone to "Spread the Good News of God."

I have been challenging you (and myself) in this process. I want you to know and celebrate that you are meeting the challenges; you are learning and growing; you are sharing the Good News of God in your daily lives. Thank you. Together we will be successful in keeping Ellington Congregational Church a beacon of hope that shines the light of God through Christ Jesus for many generations to come."



**PLEASE JOIN US THIS
WEEKEND!
FARMHOUSE SHOPPING
& FARMHOUSE FAIR
CAFE**

Dine In or Take Out:
Dinner Friday 5 - 7
Breakfast Goodies Sat 9 - 11
Lunch Saturday 11 - 1

The Farmhouse Fair Committee thanks you for all of your support - through your donations, energy, spreading the word and attending the fair!

All proceeds from the fair support church projects. This long-running, traditional event is the largest fund raiser that the Women's Fellowship runs each year, supporting many church programs.

YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE AT ECC!

BOARD OF MISSIONS NOVEMBER COLLECTION
NOV 5 THRU OCT NOV 26

Warm Toes When the Snow Blows!

We are collecting Men's and Women's new Socks, new Towels, and new Washcloths to be distributed during the Holiday season.



A basket is located on the table across from the elevators. You may deposit your gift there throughout the month of November and no later than November 26th

Cold Weather Brings New Needs

Many of our friends and families live with the added stress of high heating bills in the winter. Our Pastor's Discretionary Fund is there to help in these dire situations.

If you know of local family or friends of our Faith Community that need some help with their heating bills over the next few months, please bring it to the attention of Pastor Joanne.

As always, your donations to this fund are welcomed and directly impact needs in our community.



BLOOD DRIVE at ECC NOV 15 12:30 - 5:30



Donors will receive Elf Socks!

Register to donate at:
www.redcrossblood.org

HELP NEEDED

- Volunteers for (2) shifts: 12:00-3:15 or 3:00-6:30 to help with the Registration Desk or Canteen
- Room setup 11/14 6:30 pm (1 hour)
- Room Breakdown 11/15 6:30 pm (1 hour)

Please contact Brian Cocuzzo: brian.cocuzzo@gmail.com to help with this drive or to be added to receive notifications for future drives.



FEED A FAMILY OF 4

- **\$10 CASH** for turkey or ham
- Canned Vegetables
- Stuffing or Rice Mix
- Gravy Mix or Canned Gravy
- Instant Mashed Potatoes or Canned Sweet Potatoes
- Biscuit or Roll Mix
- Cranberry Sauce or Apple Sauce
- Pie Crust Mix & Pie Filling or Cake Mix & Frosting
- Crackers, Cookies or Candy, Pickles



Cornerstone Community Kitchen Volunteers Needed for Saturdays

Cornerstone needs people to help on Saturday mornings from 9:00 am - 1:00 pm.

Shifts available on the 1st, 2nd and 4th Saturdays of the month.

- Volunteer once, twice or ongoing
- Excellent rewarding opportunity for hands-on direct community service

For more information or to sign up, please contact Carolyn Bunick at 860-871-8689 or carolynbunick@yahoo.com



Help Support the Cheyenne
River Sioux/Lakota Tribe
(CRST) in South Dakota

Please consider donating gently used:
Winter Coats, Jackets, Hats, Gloves and Snow Pants
(Adult and Children's sizes)

Bring items year-round and place them in the blue bin under the coat rack next to the Social Room.

If you have any questions please contact Vickie Oravits at oravitsv8@gmail.com.

THANKSGIVING

**FOOD
DRIVE**

Sunday, Nov 12
9:30am - 12:00pm

Parking Lot

**THANK YOU
ELLINGTON SCOUTS
FOR YOUR HELP!**

The Seasons of Thanks and Giving are Here!

The upcoming seasons of Thanksgiving, Advent and Christmas are around the corner. They can be wonderful but stressful at the same time. There will be multiple opportunities for you to contribute. Below is a list to help you plan - **find those things that will reflect your grateful heart and bring you joy!** Details for each project will be found in this and future Callers, bulletins, weekly emails and the website. Food item requests for the Farmhouse Fair and Winterfest will be posted in the Social Room.



Event	Request	Due	Contact	Purpose
Stewardship	Catch up on your 2023 pledge	Before 12/30	Stewardship Committee	Support ECC operations & ministries
Stewardship	Make your 2024 pledge	ASAP	Stewardship Committee	Support ECC operations & ministries
Grocery Cart Ministry	Groceries	ongoing weekly	Board of Missions	Feed the Hungry
Hawkwing	Coat Collection	ongoing	Vickie Oravits	Warmth for Lakota Americans
Thanksgiving	Dinner groceries	11/12	Bryan Forst	Feed the Hungry
Nov Special Collection	Adult Socks, Towels & Washcloths	By Nov 26	Sue Hannigan	Crystal Lake Pantry
Winterfest Cafe	Food Ingredients	11/26	Joann Scott	ECC fundraiser
Winterfest Cafe	Assistance that day	12/2	Joann Scott	ECC fundraiser
Christmas Special Collection	Money	12/24	Pastor Joanne	Pastor's Discretionary Fund
Christmas	Grocery Gift Cards	12/24	Sue Hannigan	Feed the Hungry

Shopping Cart Ministry November Most Needed Items

- Cans of stew, chicken, tuna
- Canned pasta meals
- Ramen noodles
- Spaghetti sauce in plastic jars
- (such as Francesco Rinaldi)
- Pouches of instant potatoes
- Rice side dishes (such as Rice-A-Roni, Knorr side dishes)
- Peanut butter



All other canned and boxed donations are greatly appreciated, as well as grocery store gift cards.

WORSHIPPING TOGETHER

Thanksgiving Sunday

November 26, 2023 10:00 am
& Hanging of the Greens

A family-friendly service - all are welcome!

Worship in New Directions

Nov 22 7:00 pm

Join Pastor Joanne and Music Director Julie as we explore a variety of ways to worship together.

4th Wednesday of every month in the Sanctuary
(except Dec)

Join Us in Celebration This Christmas!

December 24 ~ 10:00 am
Christmas Eve Morning, Family Worship: *Prayers, Crafts and Carols*

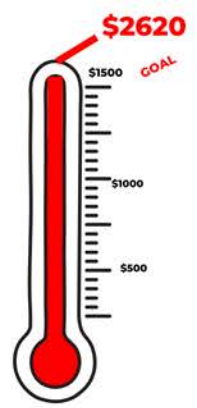
December 24 ~ 5:00 pm Christmas Eve Worship
A family-friendly service Featuring the Senior Choir and Bell Choir

December 24 ~ 10:00 pm Christmas Eve Worship
*Candlelight service ~ Sacrament of Holy Communion
Featuring the Violin and Cello*

Season of the Bags of Gold/Talents

What will you do with 10 Gold Coins?

Thank you to everyone who supported this year's program! Thanks to those who created amazing items, events and services, and to those who supported them. The current tally of proceeds is \$2,620 and still counting. The committee will announce the final numbers at a future service in November.



Please complete your pledge for 2024 online - click the "Make Your Pledge" button on the website home page - alternatively mail or bring the card you received with you to a service. Extra pledge cards are available if you need one.

JOIN US! NEW MEMBERS INFORMATION

There will be an opportunity to become a member of Ellington Congregational Church on Sunday, December 10th during our worship service.

An informational meeting will be held on Sunday, November 19th at 11:30 am. in the social room when representatives from boards, committees, and groups will offer information and answer questions.

Please contact Pastor Joanne: 860.872.9222 or pastor@eccucc.org if you are interested.

UPDATES FROM THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

- Fire Door project completed. Awaiting inspection by fire marshal.
- New exterior doors to Narthex installed. Rob Wallace doing a great job painting
- New exterior door to boiler room installed

Thank you, Andrie and John Bellezza for your years of dedication to the children of our church and beyond.

Board of Missions Working for You

From now till year-end, the Missions team will be hard at work meeting the many challenges that winter and the holidays bring to people in need. The committee organizes several ways that the congregation can help, such as with the cocoa drive, the current socks drive, and the upcoming grocery card drive in Dec.

In addition to these drives, Missions tries to meet as many needs as possible with the amount they receive out of your pledged money. They support the HVCC Christmas dinner for seniors, and they supply gift cards to Ellington and Vernon human services. They also are prepared to respond to emergency appeals from our local food banks.

Additional donations to the Board of Missions are always welcomed and allow them to do even more on behalf of our church. Please speak with Sue Hannigan for more information.

Women's Fellowship News

The Women's Fellowship of the Ellington Congregational Church is open to all members and friends of the church. We encourage you to participate in our organization.

1 Chronicles 16:34: Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his love endures forever. (NIV)

Dear Women of ECC,

Our participation in the Fall Festival at the Ellington Historical Society on Saturday, October 14, 2023 was very successful. Many of our Farmhouse Fair postcards were distributed and 60 children participated in our crafts. We also passed out cookies to the crowd. Thanks to all who helped.

Farmhouse Fair dates and times are Friday, November 3, 2023, from 5-8 p.m. and Saturday, November 4, 2023, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Please join us at the church for this fabulous annual event!

Women's Fellowship is also planning an **all-church potluck on Saturday, November 18, 2023** in the Social Room beginning at 5:00 p.m. This is a celebratory potluck for the success of the Fair and it is for **our entire church. All are welcome. Please join us.** Last names beginning A-M, please bring a main dish to share. Last names beginning N-Z, please bring a side dish to share. Beverages and desserts will be provided.

Sacred Stitches usually meets on the third Thursday of each month from 9:00 a.m. to noon in the Social Room. However, the November meeting has been cancelled due to Thanksgiving and Farmhouse Fair recovery. Everyone who wants to sew is welcome to join any of our meetings. Please contact Jan Schaeffer at 860-875-5581 with any questions.

Our next Women's Fellowship Executive Board meeting is **Friday, November 10, 2023** at 1:00 p.m. on Zoom.

Blessings, Penny Gates and Sharon McLaughlin, Co-Presidents



All-Church Potluck

Women's Fellowship is hosting an All-Church potluck on Saturday, November 18, 2023 in the Social Room beginning at 5:00 p.m.

This is a celebratory potluck for the success of the Fair, and it is for our entire church.

All are welcome. Please join us.

Last names beginning A - M, please bring a main dish to share.
Last names beginning N - Z, please bring a side dish or salad to share. Desserts and beverages will be provided.

Ellington Congregational Church presents



2023 Annual Community Gingerbread House Competition

Instructions:

- Open to the public!
- All materials used in making your gingerbread house should be edible with the exception of the base you are building on.
- Please register your entry. Go to www.eccucc.org and click on the tab at the top of the page "Gingerbread House Contest".
- 11/29 Online registrations due
- 11/30 Drop off your entry on Thursday 5:00-7:00
- 12/1 Friday 6:00 pm Judging
- 12/2 During Winterfest, from 2:00-6:30, we will be open to the public for viewing
- 12/2 6:30-7:30 Pick up your entry.

Winterfest

Saturday, December 2, 2023

***Come Join the Celebration at
Ellington Congregational Church!***

In conjunction with other town-wide events

**Gingerbread House Contest Viewing
2:00 – 6:30 p.m.**

**Bells and Musical Program
3:00 – 3:30 p.m.**

Winterfest Café 4:00-6:30 p.m.

THE CHURCH CALLER
Ellington Congregational Church
United Church of Christ
P.O. Box 216
Ellington, CT 06029-0216

ECC Contact Information

860-871-6606 www.eccucc.org

Church Office Hours: Tues - Fri 9:00 am - 2:00 pm

Office email: OfficeAdmin@eccucc.org

officeadmin@eccucc.org

Caroline Takach, Office
Administrator

Location/Shipping Address

72 Main Street

Mailing Address

P.O. Box 216,
Ellington, CT 06029-0216

Fax 860-871-5932

**WIFI for Sanctuary and
Social Room:** ECCwifil
pass: 2019churchECC!

**The 24/7 church answering
machine provides
instructions for urgent call
service .**

Pastoral Emergencies,
concerns or prayer requests,
call Pastor Joanne at
860-872-9222.

pastor@eccucc.org
Joanne Myer, Intentional
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Director

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Media Coordinator/ Website