



# The Church Caller

*A monthly publication of the Ellington Congregational Church, UCC*

*April 2024*

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](http://www.eccucc.org) for details



**Friendship Class**  
April 2, 2024  
1:00 pm - Rm 201



**FHF Workshop**  
April 9, 2024  
7:00 pm - Social Rm



**Deacon's Retreat**  
April 12 & 13, 2024  
Silver Lake Camp &  
Retreat Center



**New Member Sunday**  
April 14, 2024  
10:00 am



**Women's Fellowship  
Guest Speaker**  
April 14, 2024  
11:15 am - Social Rm



**BCE at Earth Day**  
April 20, 2024  
10:00 am  
Town Green



**Bell Choir Sunday**  
April 21, 2024  
10:00 am



**Prayer Shawl**  
April 25, 2024  
9:30 am - Social Room



**Children & Youth  
Sunday**  
April 28, 2024  
10:00 am

## Eastertide - A cheat sheet for the next 50 days

Following the 40 days of Lent, we joyously celebrated Easter Sunday on March 31 this year. Easter Sunday is the first day in the Easter Season, aka Eastertide. The Easter Season lasts 40 days taking us to the Ascension, plus another 10 days taking us to Pentacost. In our church, we celebrate all 50 days as Eastertide.

- **Eastertide 2024:** 50 days from Easter Sunday through Pentacost – March 31 through May 19
- **Ascension Day 2024:** 40 days after Easter Sunday through Thursday, May 9
- **Pentacost 2024:** The Seventh Sunday after Easter - May 19

During Eastertide, we celebrate the Resurrection of Jesus. There are 7 Sundays after Easter Sunday in Eastertide, and each Sunday of the season is treated as a Sunday of Easter. You will notice Pastor Joanne wearing a white stole on these Sundays.

We celebrate Easter Sunday as the day that Jesus was resurrected from the grave. For the next 40 days, Jesus periodically appeared to his disciples, sometimes in human form and sometimes in spirit form. He spent this time preparing his disciples for Ascension Day and the Feast of Pentacost.

Ascension Day is the day that Jesus rose to Heaven to be with God. While we don't have a church service on this day, it might be considered the most important day on the Christian calendar.

Pentacost is the day that the people were windswept by the Holy Spirit, Jesus's advocate. Red is the traditional color of Pentacost.

Follow along this season as Pastor Joanne takes us through Eastertide 2024.

# FELLOWSHIP HOUR

Fellowship Hour generally follows the worship service.

Please join us after the service, downstairs in the Social Room.

It is a favorite Sunday ritual and gives visitors, friends and members of the congregation a chance to socialize over delicious foods, a nice cuppa, and some fun activities.

Please remember to wear your name tags!

## April Fellowship Hour themes:

April 7 - National Coffee Cake Day

April 14th - New Member Reception

April 21st - Carrot Day

April 28th - Children's Sunday

The Fellowship Hour Ministry offers a way for a broad number of people to serve, without needing to attend formal committee meetings. There is also a lot of flexibility in the scheduling. Please prayerfully consider if you could assist with this ministry at least a few times during the year. Tasks are simple - baking, setup, and cleanup.

It is a loving ministry and an excellent opportunity to get to know other members of the congregation on Sunday mornings. Join Cassie Miller and her team as they continue to create fun themes each Sunday.

The Growth and Nurture Committee encourages you to wear your name tag at worship service and any other ECC gatherings. This small act goes a long way to fostering relationships and helps newcomers feel welcomed.

Missing a name tag? Please fill out the form in the narthex and leave it in the collection plate or contact Caroline in the office - [officeadmin@eccucc.org](mailto:officeadmin@eccucc.org).



## New Members

On April 7th, there will be a meeting held in Room 201 at 11:30 am. for prospective members to meet with representatives from ECC boards, committees, and groups to understand their purpose.

Sunday, April 14th, during the worship service, we will receive and welcome people as new members of the Ellington Congregational Church community.

## Deacon's Retreat

Several slots are left for the Deacon's Retreat taking place at the Silver Lake Camp & Retreat Center in Sharon CT, on April 12th & 13th.

It is free to you should you want to join us. Please let Pastor Joanne know, [pastor@eccucc.org](mailto:pastor@eccucc.org), or phone 860 872 9222, or contact Caroline in the office if you wish to come.

Deadline is April 5th

### **April 9: Farm House Fair (FHF) Workshop**

It is never too soon to be thinking of our Farmhouse Fair.

The dates are early this year – Friday, November 1, and Saturday, November 2, 2024.

A FHF Workshop will be held on Tuesday, April 9, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. in the Social Room.

We will be making frosty snowmen jars (mason jars) in which to put candles.”



### **April 14: Historical Society Guest:**

On Sunday, April 14 following worship, we will celebrate new members and enjoy some food during Fellowship Hour.

Approximately 15 – 20 minutes later, we will have a presentation about the history of Crystal Lake, given by guests from the Ellington Historical Society.

Following the presentation, we ask all women to stay for a short business meeting.



Ellington's 5th Annual

Earth Day Celebration!

Saturday, April 20, 2024

10:00 A.M. to 2:00 P.M. on the Town Green

**Stop by and visit the ECC  
Board of Christian Education's tent!  
Free craft making!**

The image shows a promotional banner for an event. At the top, it says "Ellington's 5th Annual" in green. Below that is a central logo for "EARTH DAY CELEBRATION" featuring a globe and trees, set against a background of teal and light green. Underneath the logo, it says "Earth Day Celebration!" in green, followed by "Saturday, April 20, 2024" and "10:00 A.M. to 2:00 P.M. on the Town Green" in a smaller green font. At the bottom of the banner, there is a white box with a green border containing the text: "Stop by and visit the ECC Board of Christian Education's tent! Free craft making!"

### **Prayer Shawl Ministry**

Join us April 25th in the social room for our monthly meeting where we knit and crochet amazing shawls to bring comfort and warmth to anyone who is in need. The maker begins with a prayer for the recipient as she lovingly weaves her yarn in a pattern. Refreshments are provided as well as warm conversation.



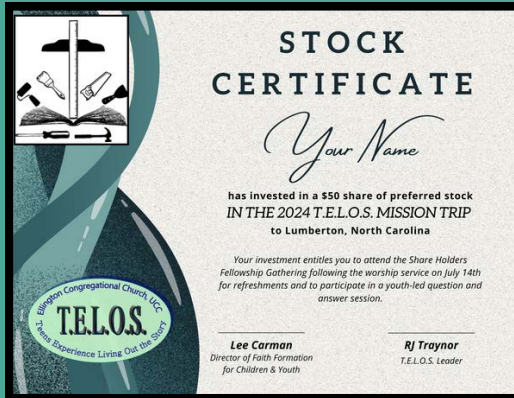
# Are you invested in T.E.L.O.S.?

Buy a share in the 2024 mission trip!

~\$50 per share~

## Perks of investing:

- Added to the private Facebook group - allows you to see daily posts and photos
- Postcard mailed from NC by a Telosian
- Email from youth during the trip
- Attend the Share Holders Fellowship Gathering after worship on 7/14 for refreshments, Q&A, & testimonies



Purchase during Social Hour beginning 4/14 or by emailing Lee at [christianed@eccucc.org](mailto:christianed@eccucc.org)

## T.E.L.O.S. earned \$858

toward the cost of the 2024 mission trip!



Thank you for your support!

## Children & Youth Sunday

April 28th



## Mark your calendars for ECC's Summer VBS Camp!

June 24th-28th, 9 am - noon (3yr - 5th grade)

**Volunteers needed!**

Registration opens April 14th - Contact Lee at [christianed@eccucc.org](mailto:christianed@eccucc.org)

If you find yourselves or loved ones hospitalized, either planned or unplanned, please reach out to Pastor Joanne, Laurie Hazleton or the Office.

You can never have too many positive thoughts and prayers.

Thank you, Orion Protective Services, for again donating your security service to keep us safe during our Easter Prayer Vigil.

## Shopping Cart Ministry April Most Needed Items

Cornerstone is requesting:

- Boxes of dry pasta
- Peanut butter
- Boxes of macaroni and cheese
- Spaghetti sauce in plastic jars (such as Francesco Rinaldi) or cans
- Cans of condensed soup (especially chicken noodle and tomato)
- Pouches of instant potatoes
- Canned pasta
- Rice side dishes (such as Rice-A-Roni, Knorr side dishes)



## MISSIONS is on a Mission

*As the Board of Missions, we exemplify a heart full of love, an ear ready to listen, and a hand willing to help.*

Lee Hayward, the Director of Cornerstone Food Pantry, would like us to know that the number of families seeking food assistance from the Cupboard continues to grow by 25-30 each month, which means we need more nonperishable food items each month.

You will probably note that certain items you expected us to seek are not on the list, e.g., canned vegetables, canned beans. That is because we are able to obtain such items for free or at a very reduced cost at Connecticut Foodshare.

Any support you can provide to us will make a difference in helping so many families struggling in this economy.



## Mother's Day - May 12

Mother's Day Cards will again be on sale during Fellowship Hour on April 28, May 5th, and May 12th.



**Saturday,  
April 27th  
9-12**

**ECC BOARD OF MISSIONS  
SPONSORED DAY OF SERVICE**

# REBUILDING TOGETHER: MANCHESTER

**ASSIST THOSE IN NEED OF  
GENERAL HOME REPAIRS AND IMPROVEMENT**

FOR MORE INFORMATION:  
CONTACT CAROLINE IN THE CHURCH OFFICE  
OR SEE TAMMIE MANGOLD IN THE SOCIAL ROOM  
AFTER SERVICE

ALL AGES WELCOME!



[www.rebuildingmanchester.org](http://www.rebuildingmanchester.org)

Are you looking for a hands-on way to help shine Jesus' light in the world? The Board of Missions is forming a team to participate in Manchester's Rebuilding Together to help people in need, people with disabilities, and older neighbors, making it possible for them to continue to live in warmth, safety, and independence.

The team will meet on site on Saturday, April 27th from 9:00-12:00. We will find out what our assignment is when we arrive, but possible jobs include painting, yard work, trash removal, and home safety modifications.

No experience is necessary, and all ages are welcome. Please consider giving the gift of time and energy to help our neighboring community.

For more information, or to sign up to join, please contact Caroline in the church office or Tammie Mangold in the social room after service.

## 2024 Spring Programs at Silver Lake

LEARN  
MORE



<p><b>Women's Yoga Weekend</b> May 3-5 Women 18+</p>	<p><b>Spring Action Weekend</b> April 26-28 Grades 6-12, adults</p>
<p><b>Spring Camp Weekend</b> May 3-5 Grades 3-7</p>	<p><b>Open House</b> Sunday, May 19 1-5 p.m.</p>
<p><b>Family Camp Weekend</b> May 25-27 All ages</p>	

**REGISTRATION  
IS OPEN**

[www.SilverLakeCT.org/SummerCamp](http://www.SilverLakeCT.org/SummerCamp)

# 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.

*John 14:6 Jesus answered, "I am the way, the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me."*

Dear Women of ECC,

It is never too soon to be thinking of our Farmhouse Fair. The dates are early this year – Friday, November 1, and Saturday, November 2, 2024. A Farmhouse Fair workshop will be held on Tuesday, April 9, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. in the Social Room. We will be making frosty snowmen jars (mason jars) in which to put candles. 😊

Our next General Women's Fellowship meeting and program will be in April. We have guests from the Ellington Historical Society who will be speaking about the history of Crystal Lake. The date is Sunday, April 14, 2024 following worship. At Fellowship Hour we will get our refreshments, greet new members, and shortly after, enjoy the presentation on the history of Crystal Lake. Following the presentation, we invite all women to stay for a short business meeting.

We continue the process of discernment for a possible change from Women's Fellowship to Fellowship for all adults. All of Women's Fellowship is invited to participate in the decision as we move through discussion to an eventual vote in future months. At the April meeting, we are updating our Constitution and Bylaws to be in synch. The larger changes of the organization will not be determined, yet.

The applications for the two \$500 scholarships offered each year by Women's Fellowship for higher education are due in the church office by May 1, 2024. Please plan accordingly. Late applications will not be accepted. There is a separate article in the Caller explaining how to apply.

Blessings, Penny Gates and Sharon McLaughlin, Co-Presidents

Ellington Congregational Church  
Women's Fellowship  
Scholarship Application

The ECC Women's Fellowship is pleased to announce two \$500.00 scholarships for 2024 are available to any member of the Ellington Congregational Church who is beginning or continuing their education at an accredited institution. This would include trade or technical institutions also. The scholarships are funded by the Women's Fellowship.

The application should be typed in resume format and include the following:

- Name
- Address
- Email address, if available
- Phone number
- Activities
  - School
  - Within the church
  - Within the community
  - Employment history, if any
- An essay describing how being a member of Ellington Congregation Church has impacted your life and how you have impacted the church and your community
- A copy of proof of acceptance to an accredited institution or a copy of a current college transcript
- A letter of reference from a member of the Ellington Congregational Church

*Completed applications should be addressed to the Women's Fellowship Scholarship Committee and mailed to PO Box 216 and to arrive on or before May 1 or submitted electronically to [officeadmin@eccucc.org](mailto:officeadmin@eccucc.org)*

Application deadline is **May 1, 2024**  
Late applications will not be accepted.

Women's Fellowship Scholarship Committee  
(revised 02/2024)



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](http://www.eccucc.org)

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

*Office email: [OfficeAdmin@eccucc.org](mailto:OfficeAdmin@eccucc.org)*

[officeadmin@eccucc.org](mailto: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](mailto:pastor@eccucc.org)

**Joanne Myer**, Intentional  
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Media Coordinator/ Website