

April 2024



THE BELL TOWER

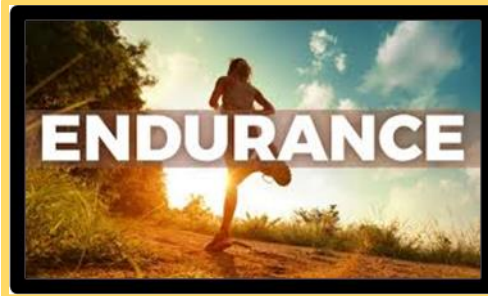


The First Congregational Church, Spencerport UCC
65 Church Street Spencerport, NY 14559



March 2024 Newsletter
FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

The late Scottish theologian and pastor, William Barclay said, "Endurance is not just the ability to bear a hard thing, but to turn it into glory." Endurance! It is the power to withstand pain or hardships; the ability or strength to continue despite fatigue, stress, or other adverse conditions.



Let's face it—All of us have experienced the uphill battles of life; and some of you are dealing with them right now. Some of you are dealing with deep loneliness; some of you are dealing with aging (changes in your mind and body that you don't quite understand); some of you are dealing with mental anguish because of the uncertainty of the future; some of you, in your latter years, are still dealing with the residue from your childhood and teenage years; and, still there are others who are concerned for the wellbeing of your children and grandchildren.

Let me simply encourage you with these words:

And let us not be weary in well-doing, for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not. (Galatians 6:9)

There was a soldier on the battlefield who had grown tired and weary; he put his weapons down on the ground and fell to his knees. With the sound of bombs and explosive devices going off in the background, he wept, cried, and groaned, as he yelled, "Oh, God! Please help me!" It was at that moment that the soldier felt a light touch on his shoulder. When that hand touched his shoulder, he felt power, strength, and renewal that he had never felt before. That hand upon his shoulder is what gave him the endurance to keep going when he wanted to give up. When that soldier stood up and turned around, no one was behind him. He was still there, alone.

Like the young soldier, we all get tired and weary of the burdens that we must bear. But let me encourage you to keep fighting; keep moving forward; keep pressing toward the mark of the high calling. It is only when we endure to the end that we can see the light at the end of the tunnel. And it is only when we endure to the end that we can taste the sweet fruit of victory that we all long for.

Grace & Peace!

Pastor Michael L. Sloan



April 2024

UPCOMING DATES

Sunday, April 7th - Lunch Bunch - Following Worship Service
Saturday, April 13th – @ 9:30 am: Women's Guild Meeting



**COUNCIL AND
BOARDS MEETINGS**

Tuesday, April 16th
@ 6:30/7:00 PM

**FINANCE BOARD
ZOOM MEETING**

Wednesday, April 10th @
7:00 PM Via Zoom

MAY NEWSLETTER DEADLINE IS APRIL 17TH.

If you would like to submit an article for The May
Newsletter, please email the church office at
admin@spencerportucc.org,
By April 17th. Thank you!

BBQ FUNDRAISER

HOMEMADE TANGY PULLED PORK
BARBECUE, FRESH COLESLAW, SALT
POTATOES, ROLL, BUTTER, AND
DESSERT

You're Invited to a



SATURDAY, APRIL 6th

**FIRST CONGREGATIONAL
CHURCH**

65 CHURCH STREET
SPENCERPORT, NY
DRIVE THRU ONLY

TO PROVIDE ONGOING SUPPORT
FOR STUDENTS AT ROCHESTER
ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOL K-5TH

****NOON TILL SOLD OUT****

TICKETS \$13.50

****ADVANCE TICKETS RECOMMENDED****

AVAILABLE BY CALLING
CHURCH OFFICE AT 585-352-3448



Join Us!!!



BREAKFAST CLUB



Breakfast Club

APRIL DATES/LOCATIONS

April 2 nd – Town & Country	(3205 Chili Ave.)
April 9 th – Slayton Place	(26 Slayton Ave.)
April 16 th – Original Steve's Diner	(3240 Chili Ave.)
April 23 rd – Johnny D's	(2139 N. Union St.)
April 30 th – Blue Ridge Grill	(3400 W. Ridge Rd.)

April 2024

APRIL MINISTRY SCHEDULE

GREETERS:

7 – TBA
14 – TBA
21 – TBA
28 – TBA

COFFEE HOUR:

7 – LUNCH BUNCH
14 – TBA
21 – TBA
28 – TBA

USHERS:

7 – TBA
14 – TBA
21 – TBA
28 – TBA

LAY READERS:

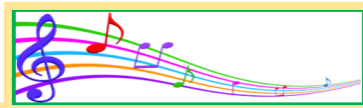
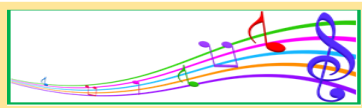
7 – TBA
14 – Ellen M Kern
21 – Gwendolyn Tappenden
28 – TBA

****IF YOU ARE ABLE TO HELP WITH ANY OF THE WEEKENDS LABELED TBA PLEASE SIGN UP ON THE BULLETIN BOARD IN FELLOWSHIP HALL OR CONTACT THE OFFICE @ (585) 352-3448 OR admin@spencerportucc.org****



ARE YOU A WIDOW? OR, DO YOU KNOW ANYONE WHO IS A WIDOW? NAOMI'S CIRCLE:

Naomi's Circle will meet on the following dates through May. The second Thursdays of the month. **Thursdays, April 11th, May 9th at 12 Noon.** Naomi's Circle will meet in the Fellowship Hall for a light luncheon and a conversation on widowhood. Please bring a small dish to share. If you have any questions, please contact the office @ (585) 352-3448 or admin@spencerportucc.org The group is open to anyone that is a widow. Members can attend as a support person in the group if needed. Naomi's Circle is dedicated to providing a safe place for widows/widowers to express themselves, freely, about how widowhood has impacted their lives.



April 2024

MONTHLY BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

FCC MUSIC MINISTRY



Praise Band



UPDATE

PRAISE BAND SUNDAY'S IN APRIL

The Praise Band will perform during worship service on Sunday, **April 14th & 28th**. The Praise Band will continue to perform every other Sunday alternating with the Choir.

The members of the band include:

- Mark Schott, guitar
- Doug Schott, drums
- Mark DiNitto, bass
- Darcy Colby, vocals
- Dori Swarthout, piano



CHOIR PRACTICE'S IN APRIL

Choir Practices are Thursdays, April 4th & 18th @ 7:00 pm.

CHOIR SUNDAY'S IN APRIL

The Choir will perform during worship service on **Sunday, April 7th & 21st**.

The Choir will alternate Sundays with the Praise Band. Rehearsal will be 7 pm the Thursday prior to the Sunday performance and 9 am on the Sunday of performing.



First Congregational Church,
Spencerport UCC
April



*Anniversaries
and Birthdays*

Please wish a
Happy Birthday To:
15TH – Rev. Frank Nichols
Frank your Church Family Wishes you a very
Happy Birthday!
Gods Blessings!

****Please send Paula your Birthdays and Anniversaries so, we can celebrate together! (information below) ****

MONTHLY BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

Let's celebrate each other! We would like to include special dates in The Bell Tower Monthly Newsletter. Please send us your Anniversary or Birthday (without year) to be included in the monthly newsletter, please contact the office at (585) 352-3448 or Admin@spencerportucc.org.

April 2024

CHRISTIAN ACTION

Spencerport Ecumenical Food Shelf

Spencerport CROP Hunger Walk 2024



This year's CROP walk is scheduled for Sunday, May 5, 2024 - beginning at 1:00 pm - with check-in beginning at 12:30 pm.

Details to follow.

Please call or email the office if you would like to include any information, special news, or occasions into the weekly FlockNote or our monthly newsletter. Thank You!



Thank you for your continuing and generous support to the Spencerport Ecumenical Food Shelf.

This month, the following items are especially needed:

Assorted Veggies, Cooking Beans, Baked Beans, Coffee, Hot Cocoa Mix, Cold Drinks, Creamy Soups, Jelly, Hot Cereal, Pasta Sauce, Toothpaste and Shampoo.

A bin is available in the Fellowship Hall to drop off your donations.

If you know of anyone residing in the Spencerport School District, in need of food, they can call 397-0290.

Cash donations can be sent to Tom Olney, Food Shelf Treasurer, 26 Ogden Parma Townline Road, Spencerport, NY 14559. Checks should be made out to the Spencerport Ecumenical Food Shelf.

Questions or concerns: Contact Melanie Ippolito at 352-3891.



April 2024



EASTER FLOWERS 2024



GIVEN IN MEMORY OF:	BY:
Our Son, Todd Saylor	Sandy & Al Saylor
Florence & Arthur Pastor - Parents, Peggy Pastor - Niece	Bunny Tubbs
Albert & Hazel Merkel, Fran, Mamie Eichorn, Richard Eichorn & Kathy Eichorn	Carol Eichorn & Family
Ross Vasbinder	Julie Nelson
George Eysaman – My Husband & Arthur & Lillian Nau – My Parents	Karen Eysaman
My Father, John Snetsinger & Sister, Barbara Harris	Wendy Vonhold
Our Parents: Don & Roberta Darrohn & Walter & Doris Boeff	Don & Mickey Darrohn
Warren & Mary Ann Hewes	Frank & Sue Nichols
John & Joan Morton and Ruth & Bud Wood – Our Parents	Marion & Rob Morton
Daryl Lynn Martin (Sister)	Darcy Mae Colby
Bud & Norma Bauer, Ray & Edna Burroughs, and Hazel & Chet Crawford	Holly Bauer-Mergen

GIVEN IN HONOR OF:	BY:
Jesus	His Church Family
My Children & Grandchildren	Wendy Vonhold
Allison Diehl	Jesse Diehl
Marilyn Vasbinder	Julie Nelson
Our Military	Don & Mickey Darrohn



OFFICE HOURS
Monday - Friday
9:00 am – 2:00 pm

Pastor: Rev. Michael L. Sloan, D. Min.
Cell: (309) 262-6543
E-mail: pastor@spencerportucc.org

Administrative Assistant: Paula Jackson
Office: (585) 352-3448
E-mail: admin@spencerportucc.org



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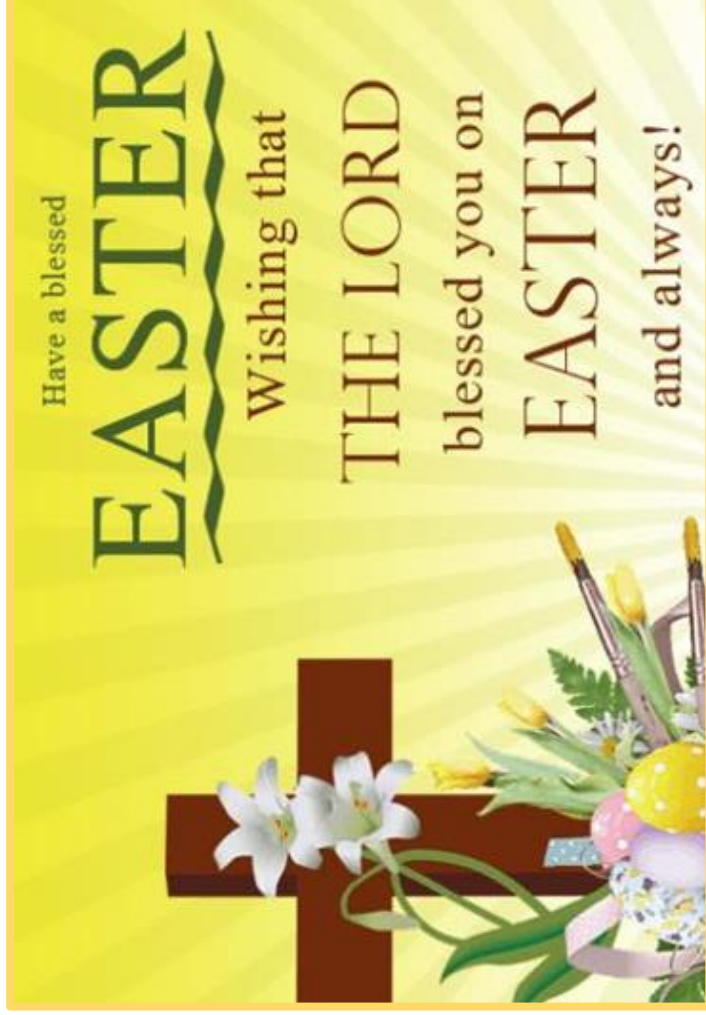
**FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
SPENCERPORT UCC
APRIL 2024**



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4	5	6
	Newsletter Online 6-8 pm Rotary Meeting - Fellowship Hall	9:00 am– Breakfast Club @ Town & Country (3205 Chili Ave.) 7 pm - ALANON		3pm – SEM @ Adams Basin UMC 7 pm-Choir Practice	4 pm – BBQ Prep	10 am – BBQ Set-up BBQ Fundraiser Noon Till Sold Out
Second Sunday of Easter 7	8	9	10	11	12	13
9 am – Choir Rehearsal 10 am-Worship / Choir Singing/ Lunch Bunch Following Worship	*OFFICE CLOSED*	9:00 am– Breakfast Club @ Slayton Place (26 Slayton Place) 7 pm – ALANON	7pm-Zoom Finance Board Meeting	Noon – Naomi's Circle 	*OFFICE CLOSED*	9:30 am – Women's Guild Meeting - Fellowship Hall 
Third Sunday of Easter 14	15	16	17	18	19	20
10 am-Worship / Praise Band Performing	6-8 pm Rotary Meeting - Fellowship Hall	9 am– Breakfast Club @ Steve's Original Diner (3240 Chili Ave.) 6:30/7 pm –Council/Boards Meeting 7 pm – ALANON	APRIL NEWSLETTER DEADLINE 	7 pm-Choir Practice		Dori's Music Studio – Spring Recital 11 am
Fourth Sunday of Easter 21	22	23	24	25	26	27
9 am – Choir Rehearsal 10 am-Worship / Choir Singing *Communion*		9 am– Breakfast Club @ Johnny D's (2139 N. Union St.) 7 pm – ALANON			*Newsletter Mailed*	
Fifth Sunday of Easter 28	29	30				
10 am-Worship / Praise Band Performing	6-8 pm Rotary Meeting - Fellowship Hall	9 am– Breakfast Club @ Blue Ridge Grill (3400 W. Ridge Rd. 7 pm – ALANON				

April
SHOWERS
BRING
May
FLOWERS

**FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
65 Church Street
Spencerport, NY 14559-1311**



April 2024

**FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**

Sunday Worship: 10:00 am

Telephone: (585) 352-3448

Web site: www.spencerportucc.org

Facebook: www.facebook.com/SpencerportUCC

Pastor: Rev. Michael Sloan (1-309-262-6543 - cell)

E-mail: pastor@spencerportucc.org

Administrative Assistant: Paula Jackson

Office Hours: 9:00 am-2:00 pm – Monday-Friday

E-mail: admin@spencerportucc.org

Music Director: Darcy Colby

E-mail: musicdirector@spencerportucc.org

Accompanist: Lindsey Williams

