



Church Chatter

May 2026

A publication of Ledyard Congregational Church, United Church of Christ!

In This Issue

A Message From the Pastor	1-2
May Birthdays & Anniversaries	2
Pastor's Office Hours	2
Keep in Your Prayers	
Prostate Cancer Support Group	3
Keeping You Informed	3
May Scripture Readings	3
Deacon's Fund	3
Monday Morning Bible Study	3
Missions	4-5
May Community Supper	6
Wear Your Name Tag	6
Worship Readers	6
Caps & Lids for our Bench Update	6
Wednesday Night Book Study Group	7
Honor Class of 2026	7
Fellowship Hall Air Conditioning Update	7
How to Log Into Zoom	7
Social Justice Team	8-9
Door Bell Instructions	9
Open and Affirming Statement and Non-Discrimination Declaration	9
LCC A-Z	9
From the Historian's Desk	10
Church Calendar	10
Hearing Assistance	10
Janet Barnett Grants Share-Out Dinner	10
Being Congregational	11

May Pancake Breakfast	11
Take Care	11
Thursday Morning Writing Group	11
Women's Fellowship	12
Lights Out, Doors Shut	12
Faith Formation & Sunday School	13
Pancake Breakfast Schedule	14
Easter Flowers List	14
Wheelchair accessible Sunday worship service will be on May 3	14
Blessings for our Members who Serve	14
Chatter on the Church Website	14
Looking for Greeters	14
Chatter Deadline	14
May Blanket Sunday Order Form	15

A Message From Pastor Pat

Now What?

Easter is over. Now what? In the early church it was fifty days of celebration and feasting. Resurrection was celebrated as people sharpened their understanding of Jesus' ongoing presence with them as they continued their ministry in his name. Known as Eastertide, these fifty days from Easter to Pentecost reach back to the joy of Easter and what it means for us, 2000 years later.

Eastertide is the longest liturgical season of the year, surpassing Advent and Lent.

Eastertide is a season of celebrating, fifty days of partying and being joyful for the reality of resurrection. It is a celebration of community, of believers gathered together in what we call "church." This is a time to look around us on Sunday morning and give thanks for those who people the pews with us. Each one has gifts; each one has strengths and weakness; each one is a beloved child of God; each one is a vessel for God's love. We are unique creatures and the deepest purpose of our lives is to be in holy relationship to God and one another.

Easter isn't just a day; it is a season. It's when we, like the early church, focus our energy on what it means to us, as individuals, to proclaim, "He is risen." It may be that this is the longest liturgical season because it takes us a while to figure out what resurrection means for us.

It isn't just a case of what we

Continued on page 2

Continued from page 1

believe, although knowing what we believe is helpful. It also has to do with how we live. Easter needs be realized in our lives; in how we live, how our lives point to abundant life, how we steward our lives for Christ.

We know that Jesus hung out at the margins where people were outcast for all kinds of reasons, none of which we would want to be part of our lives. These people were down and out, abandoned by their families and their community, left on their own to fend for themselves. It was a lonely and hard existence.

Much of the healing that Jesus did was about restoring people to their community. Freeing them from whatever separated them in the first place. For the woman with an issue of blood, she was perpetually ritually unclean. This went on for twelve years. Twelve years of being outcast and separated from her community. Exactly what happened is a mystery, but the fruit of that interaction restored her to her life. After twelve long years.

The season of Eastertide is about living into what we say we believe. It means hanging out with Jesus at the margins, learning to love more deeply and fully. It means seeing the face of God in everyone we meet, for each one is a beloved child of God. It means celebrating the fullness of our humanity, shaped and made new by

the truth that, "He is risen."

May joy, love, hope and peace fill your hearts this Eastertide.

Pastor Pat

Ledyard Congregational Church wishes the following people happy birthdays and anniversaries and a blessed year ahead!



May Birthdays

Deb Frazer	5/1
Eric Ganz	5/2
Kelsey Williams	5/2
Jami Allyn	5/3
Allie Holdridge	5/4
Gay Collins	5/13
Cindy Atkinson	5/14
Quinn O'Donnell	5/14
Jessica Burger	5/18
Lee Moore	5/20
Sue Burns	5/21
Elli Hansen	5/21
Aaron Hayes	5/23
Jennie Austin	5/24
Stephen Hayes	5/25
Mary Collins	5/29



May Anniversaries

Tom & Marie Olson	5/1
Bill & Cari Barnes	5/28

From the Pastor's Desk

Office Hours

Wednesdays & Thursday
9:00a.m. — 12:00 p.m.

Other times are available by appointment, please don't hesitate to ask!

Email: pliberty57@gmail.com

Cell: (401) 499-7752

Please Keep the Following People and Families in Your Prayers

Thank you for keeping these people in your prayers this month. It is our intent to continue to review and update the list as the information becomes available. That is where we need your help. If you know of someone who would like to be on the list, or be removed, please contact the church office (860) 464-9926 or Jeanne Allyn (860) 464-9316. Please include the name of the person to be added/deleted as well as your contact information. Thank you!

- Doug C.
- Bill Dawson
- Fred
- Carol Gauthier
- Joan Jirsa
- Gary Melanson
- Cindy M.
- Johanna Nolan
- Karen Rhoades
- Roy Warren
- Audrey Walker
- Marge Wilson



PROSTATE CANCER

Support Group

The Prostate Cancer Support Group is now meeting at John and Donna Clark's home.

We meet on the third Tuesday of the month from 7:00-8:30pm.

All men are welcome to join us. Spouses are welcome as well!

For meeting location and questions please contact John Clark at 860 464 7651. Thank you.

Keeping You Informed

This Chatter newsletter is filled with articles to help keep you up to date on all that's happening at LCC.

Additionally, the church office sends out a weekly email blast which contains information about our Sunday worship service and highlights of upcoming events. We encourage you to read. If you do not already receive the weekly email blast, please contact the church office via email at:

ledyard.cong.church@gmail.com and you will be added to the list. Note, you can unsubscribe at any time.

May Scripture Readings



Sunday May 3

Fifth Sunday of Easter

Acts 7:55-60 • Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16 • 1 Peter 2:2-10 • John 14:1-14

Sunday May 10

Sixth Sunday of Easter

Acts 17:22-31 • Psalm 66:8-20 • 1 Peter 3:13-22 • John 14:15-21

Sunday May 17

Seventh Sunday of Easter

Acts 1:6-14 • Psalm 68:1-10, 32-35 • 1 Peter 4:12-14; 5:6-11 • John 17:1-11

Sunday May 24

Day of Pentecost

Acts 2:1-21 or Numbers 11:24-30 • Psalm 104:24-34, 35b • 1 Corinthians 12:3b-13 or Acts 2:1-21 • John 20:19-23 or John 7:37-39

Sunday May 31

First Sunday after Pentecost

Genesis 1:1-2:4a Psalm 8 • 2 Corinthians 13:11-13 • Matthew 28:16-20



Deacons' Fund

Communion Sundays provide an opportunity to contribute to the Deacons' Fund.

This fund is set aside for members of the congregation who have a financial emergency. It is also used for people in the local community experiencing an emergency. Envelopes for this special collection can be found in the pews on the first Sunday of the month. Our next collection will take place on Sunday, May 3rd.

Monday Morning Bible Study

Each week we meet on Monday morning from 10:30-11:30 a.m. in the Holdridge library and discuss the scripture for the upcoming Sunday in a relaxed and fun setting.



All are welcome!

A message from

MISSIONS

Linda C. Davis Food Pantry

Donations



For the month of **May**, the pantry is asking that we collect **Peanut Butter and Jelly!**

When you grocery shop, please add a few items for the pantry to your cart. Then bring in your items on Sundays and place them under the table in the front of the sanctuary. You can also drop off items in the tote under the walkway to the church offices or in the box inside the Atrium.

On the first Sunday of each month, we will dedicate all the donations from the previous month as part of our morning offerings and then start collecting a new food item.

May Community Supper

Thursday May 21st

5:30 p.m. in Fellowship Hall



Our May theme is **Spring Salads**. Not to worry, there will be plenty of different foods to choose from! Come and see what our amazing cooks come up with.

This **FREE** supper is open to all! Come and sit for a while. Enjoy a hot meal, conversation, and community! There is a sign-up sheet for both food items and helpers on the table

in Fellowship Hall. Please consider adding your name wherever you can. Then come!

May Red Cross Blood Drive

Wednesday, May 13th



Our next drive is scheduled for **WEDNESDAY MAY 13TH** from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. Volunteers as well as snacks will be needed

Having people sign up to donate ahead of time is helpful! That way we can be sure we have enough staff on hand to expedite the process. It's easy to do! You can call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or visit RedCrossBlood.org. Not sure of your schedule? Walk-ins are always welcome!

If you are interested in volunteering during the drive or donating snacks (wrapped individually), please contact Jill Thorne at gbthorne@sbcglobal.net or via phone 860-912-0924. Your help is always welcome!

We continue to be committed to holding Blood Drives as an ongoing mission of our church and are grateful for the support we receive from our community and church members and friends.

Church World Services Blanket

Sunday, May 10th

In May, we will celebrate all the women in our lives with blankets.



As in the past several years, we will be participating

in the **Church World Service's Blanket Sunday** and are inviting you to purchase a blanket(s) at \$10.00 each. Blanket gift cards, are available for you to take to send an acknowledgment of your gift. "Your gift of a CWS blanket brings comfort, care and hope to someone facing a difficult moment. Your generosity makes this possible. Every blanket you share tells a neighbor, 'you're cared for.'" Thanks to generous donors like you, CWS shared 17,317 blankets in 2025. There is an order form on page 15 and also on the table in Fellowship Hall along with envelopes and thank you notes.

"Jesus said, 'I was in need and you cared for me.'" Matthew 25:40

SAVE THE DATE

Epic Day of Service

Saturday, May 16th

The Ledyard Rotary is cohosting this event, along with Rotary clubs from surrounding towns for the 4th year. Each year of this effort, the Rotary clubs have grown the event, the number of meals packed, the number of volunteers and community involvement, and therefore also the amount of money needed to fund the food and packaging supplies. The effort is done through a New England chapter out of Massachusetts of The

Outreach Project.

This year, they are continuing the trend and will pack 40,000 meals. The completed meals are then donated to United Way's Gemma Moran Food Center for distribution to pantries and support programs in all of New London County, including the Linda Davis Pantry in Ledyard.

The event will take place on the morning of Saturday, May 16, 2026, at United Methodist Church in Gales Ferry, who is also one of the event sponsors. We, Ledyard Congregational Church, has also stepped up as a sponsor of the event. What's needed now are volunteers.

Packing meals is a hands-on opportunity to make a tangible impact. The event entails a 1 or many hour commitment for almost any age, including as young as 4 years old and including people who

need to sit during their shift. There will be 2 shifts for food packing. 8 am – 9:30 am and 9:30 – 11 am. Anita Merando along with Lisa Curtis are going to encourage Sunday school families to participate, but we are reaching out for more members of our congregation to participate as well. There is a sign-up sheet on the table in Fellowship Hall for you to add your name to the list of volunteers. Questions? Please contact Lisa Ann Curtis @ lisaanncurtis@yahoo.com and/or Anita Merando @ armerando@gmail.com.

Strengthen the Church Special Missions Offering Will be Received on Pentecost Sunday, May 24th
We invite you all to wear red in celebration of Pentecost!



The theme for 2026 is Sent Forth in Love.

Our second special Missions offering for 2026 and one of the four

United Church of Christ (UCC) annual offerings funded through donations received from congregations is **Strengthen the Church (STC)**.

The Strengthen the Church Offering supports congregations and leader across the United Church of Christ as they respond to the Spirit's call to be united in Christ for a more just world for all. The challenges our congregations face vary:

- Some seek ways to strengthen youth ministry
- Some hope to start new congregations
- Some look for innovative ways to renew existing congregations
- Some need help developing leaders

The giving in your congregation can ensure congregations get the help they need from their conference and the national ministries of the UCC. Together we can answer the Spirit's call to be united in Christ for a just world for all.

Your Mission's committee continues to be amazed and grateful for the ongoing support from our church family in all our outreach endeavors.

Thank you from Sue Burns, Kathy Fletcher, Dolly Hayes, Pastor Pat, Sara Holdridge, Anita Merando, Dee Potter, Meredith Schuft, Ellen Seeman, Kathy Smith, & Jill Thorne.



FREE

May Community Supper Spring Salads

Thursday, May 21st
Ledyard Congregational Church

Come and see what our amazing cooks come up with. There will be lots of great food to choose from!

Supper will be served at 5:30pm. This is **FREE** with a donate-what-and-if you-can supper and is open to all!

Come and sit for a while. Enjoy a hot meal, conversation, and community!

Enter through the double doors into Fellowship Hall (Bill Library side).

For more information about our church, use this QR code!



Caps & Lids Updates for Our Rainbow Bench



After our second weigh-in with the help of our Sunday school children on Sunday, February 15th, our total came to 217 lbs., which surpassed our initial goal of 200 lbs. Ellen Seeman asked the congregation what we thought about trying for 250 lbs. to upgrade to an 8 ft bench. The congregation overwhelmingly agreed, especially when Ellen told us that Leslie Stasko had commented that we would be able to invite one more person to sit with us.

So, keep those caps and lids coming! Not sure if a cap or lid is acceptable? Check out the large chart on the table in Fellowship Hall and be sure to take a flyer with you to refer to at home. PLEASE MAKE SURE ALL CAPS AND LIDS ARE **CLEAN!**

Big thanks you goes to Pat B who has been taking home numerous bags to sort and clean and to Ellen Seeman who brought us the idea for this project! The involvement from our church members, community members and lots of our family members has been truly rewarding!

Thank you from Missions and Faith Formation

Name Tags

We are all encouraged to wear name tags on Sundays. If you need a name tag or have misplaced yours and would like a new one, please contact Beth Smith.
(fraugurusan@yahoo.com).
Thank you!

Worship Readers

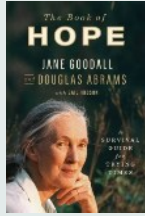
If you would like to be added to the list of volunteers to be a worship reader please contact Beth Smith.
(fraugurusan@yahoo.com).

**WEDNESDAY
NIGHT
BOOK STUDY
GROUP**

7:00-8:00 p.m. in

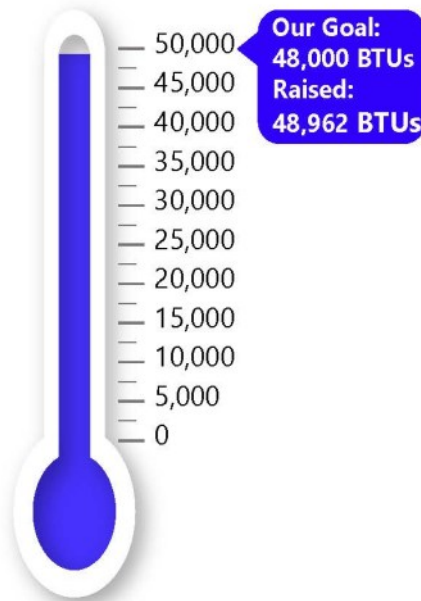
the Holdridge Library

The book group is currently reading Jane Goodall's book, **The Book of Hope**. "In this urgent book, Jane Goodall, one of the world's most famous naturalists, and Douglas Abrams, the internationally bestselling co-author of **The Book of Joy**, explore through intimate and thought-provoking dialogue one of the most sought after and least understood elements of human nature: hope. In **The Book of Hope**, Jane focuses on her "Four Reasons for Hope": The Amazing Human Intellect, The Resilience of Nature, The Power of Young People, and The Indomitable Human Spirit."



Hope to see you there!

**Fellowship Hall Air Conditioning
Fundraising**



Annual Meeting we voted for the Trustees to launch a campaign to fund the project. The permanent air conditioning units in the Fellowship Hall will support ALL Access services in the summer, as well as Pancake Breakfasts, and other Church and Community activities. In addition, air conditioning will enable Ledyard Congregational Church to offer space to the American Red Cross for summer blood drives.

You did it! The Trustees had a proposal to install two ductless mini split systems in Fellowship Hall for approximately \$25,000. These units are quieter and more efficient than window units. The Trustees brought the proposal to the congregation and at the 2026

On Sunday afternoon, April 19th we reached our goal and **there WILL BE Cool Summer Functions, Services, and Events!**

Thank you to all who have been so generous!

**Help Us Honor the
Class of 2026**

We would like to celebrate this year's high school, college, and those graduating from a special programs. Please email the names of your children, grandchildren, or anyone else you know of to: chrisandmeri@gmavt.net and I'll be sure to honor them all in the June issue of the Chatter. Meredith



**So, Tell me Again How I
log into Zoom to Join
the Sunday Service?**

Every week, in the email blast, below the first slide that invites you to "Join us for Worship" is a button that says "Click here for zoom meeting information and dial in numbers". If you choose to join us online, click here and follow the instructions. It's easy.

If you have tried this in the recent past and it hasn't worked, you are not crazy. We discovered that the link to zoom hasn't been working consistently and we want you to know that it's fixed. If you experience any problems with this link, please let us know by emailing the church office.

ledyard.cong.church@gmail.com

See you online!

Ledyard Congregational Church Social Justice Team

The Social Justice team has adopted Micah 6:8 as our guiding verse, *“He has told you, O mortal, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?”*

The Social Justice Team (SJT) wants to take a moment to share what we have accomplished over the past months.

- From Dialog Sermons with Safe Futures, The New London Homeless Hospitality Center, and disabilities advocate Elanah Sherman, we have united the purpose for charity and justice to scripture.
- Pop-in Prayer has provided us the opportunity to lift up marginalized groups and those within our church family in shared moments of prayer.
- With awareness that it isn't always easy to talk through difficult topics, we hosted a Constructive Dialog Workshop (Janet Barnett Legacy Fund).
- Realizing that diversity and equity are challenged in our current political environment, we hosted an Introduction to Racial Justice workshop (Janet Barnett Legacy Fund).

- We are also building our ecumenical ties in Ledyard so that we may collaborate with other churches to live more fully in our mission to do justice, love kindness and walk humbly with God.

Looking Ahead

Thursday, May 21st
4:00-5:00 SJT Meeting in
Holdridge Library

All are welcome.

5:00-5:30 in the Lester Room

We invite you to join us in prayer dedicated to caregivers, and stay for the Community Supper.

Sunday, June 28th we will celebrate Open and Affirming Sunday

Additionally, the SJT will collaborate with the Town of Ledyard's Community Relations Committee for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion on their pride celebration. Watch the eblast for more details.

Social Justice Project



Your social justice team has initiated an exercise that looks at social justice issues in our world and then what Scripture calls us to do to respond to those issues. This exercise requires you, the congregation, to participate. On the wall in fellowship hall is a mural the team created that illustrates areas of injustice and evil. On the table next to the mural are approximately 80 verses from the bible that may speak to what you see on the mural. Here's

where you come in. We ask that you look through the verses and pick one or more that you think are relevant and speaks to the issues you see on the mural. Take the verse and paste it (glue sticks provided) onto the mural where you think it best fits. Hope you all will participate as we explore the connections between the social justice issues and our response to those issues in light of biblical teachings.

LCC Social Justice Team’s Next Meeting, Thursday May 21st 4:00-5:00 p.m.

The LCC Social Justice Team meets the 3rd Thursday of every month in the Holdridge Library.

All are welcome to join us



Pop-in-Prayer, Thursday May 21st

Our **Pop-In Prayer** meets from 5:00-5:30 p.m. in the Lester Room. In May we will gather in prayers dedicated to caregivers. Join us in prayer ahead of the Community Supper at 5:30 p.m. in Fellowship Hall.

Key-Code and/or FOB Holders

If you have a key-code and/or FOB, you are expected to let yourself into the building. During office hours, use the ring camera just to let Bridney know you are here, then let yourself in.

All Visitors

Please ring the door chime and our admin will respond as quickly as possible. Please be patient. Thank you



Press Here To summon Bridney



**Ledyard Congregational Church, United Church of Christ
Open and Affirming Statement and Non-Discrimination Declaration**

Open and Affirming Statement
“There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus.” [Galatians 3:28]

As we are one in Christ, we are called to accept and respect one another. We commit ourselves to work diligently to end all oppression and discrimination which afflicts God’s people in our society. We seek to explore new ways of affirming our faith in community according to the wisdom of the Gospel. We work, as individuals and as a community, to become more Christ-like in our love for one another.

Love is a unifying and strengthening force within the Christian faith, and we, the members of the Ledyard Congregational Church, hereby declare ourselves an Open and Affirming Church and welcome into full participation members and staff of every sexual orientation, gender identity, and gender expression.

Jesus teaches us to welcome all God’s children. As we grow together in faith and love, we will strive to

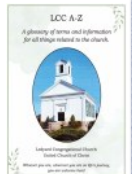
celebrate the diversity in which God has created us. As followers of Christ, we seek by this affirmation to be faithful to his commandment, *“love one another as I have loved you.” [John 15:1]*

Non-Discrimination Declaration
We welcome into full participation all who seek to follow Jesus, including persons of every age, gender, race, national origin, faith background, marital status and family structure, mental and physical ability, economic and social status, and educational background, to share in the life, leadership, ministry, fellowship, worship, sacraments, responsibilities, blessings and joys of our church family.

Adopted at the Ledyard Congregational Church’s Semi-Annual meeting August 24, 2025.

LCC A-Z

A-Z has been updated and will continue to be updated on an as needed basis. If you have additional corrections, please send them to Beth Smith (fraugurusan@yahoo.com).



A link is also available in the weekly E-blast and hard copies are on the table in Fellowship Hall.

From the Historian's Desk



May comes to North Groton

It wasn't until May 9, 1726, that the North Society met again. Samuel Seabury had finished his preaching and moved on. It is not clear whether they ever asked him to remain as a settled minister but, in any case, he did not. By May, they were hoping Mr. Simon Beckus of Norwich would consent to preach. They were willing to be flexible. The committee of Lieut. Avery, Ensign Dean, and Sgt. Bill were assigned to visit Mr. Beckus and call him "for a quarter, or a half, or a full year" and agree with him for any sum of money not to exceed seventy pounds. Later in the month, they met again at Capt. Morgan's to discuss siting of a meetinghouse, but "not being on said business well agreed" they adjourned until September.

SAVE THE DATE! Following the parade!

The 1725 petition and resulting permission for a separate society represents the beginning of the community that became Ledyard, making the current anniversary a town milestone as well as the church's. With that in mind, we plan


to have an open house at several historic buildings in Ledyard Center associated with the Memorial Day Parade, which will be Sunday, May 24. As the parade pulls out of the center we will open the doors and welcome visitors to the original Bill Library (our balcony), the "new" Bill Library, the meetinghouse (sanctuary), old Town Clerk's office, chowder house, schoolhouse, as well as Gurdon Bill's Store (Way Station) up the road. We hope people already in the center for the parade will take the opportunity to visit these historic buildings which represent a wide span of town and church history, so plan to drop in and **please tell your friends.**

Carol Ganz, LCC Historian



Ledyard Congregational Church Calendar

Our church calendar is on our website: ledyardcongregational.org and also on Breeze! The calendar is updated frequently so be sure to check it out often. All board and Committee chairs make sure that you update all your upcoming meetings and events!



Did you Know?

We have [hearing assistance devices](#) to assist the hearing-impaired during worship services. See the Tech Team before worship to try one!

Janet Barnett Memorial Grant Share-Out Dinner
Sunday, May 3, 2026
5:00 – 7:30 p.m.
Ledyard Congregational Church, Fellowship Hall



You're invited to a special evening celebrating the Janet Barnett Project

Grant recipients. Please join us for a free meal to hear about the grant initiatives and how they honor the legacy of Janet Barnett! Volunteers will serve a ziti dinner to honor the countless 4-H fundraising meals Janet hosted and to celebrate community. We hope you can join us!

Ziti Dinner & Project Share-Out
 5:00 Dinner - last service at 5:45
 6:00 p.m. presentations

RSVP Requested



To ensure seating for everyone, we ask you to RSVP in advance using the following link or by communicating with Vicky. Seating will not be assigned.

<https://forms.gle/QvFiebjdHE9smLVA6>

Vicky DiFilippo: [860-287-2389](tel:860-287-2389) or vehd68@gmail.com.



Here is a Quick Primer on Being a Congregational United Church of Christ Church

BEING CONGREGATIONAL

- The congregation is the final seat of authority on four issues:
 - * Property
 - * Leadership
 - * Doctrine
 - * Money
- The congregation owns the real estate
- The congregation chooses its own leaders
- The congregation sets its own doctrine
- The congregation handles its own financial affairs
- The church is administered by leaders elected by the congregation
- Staff are empowered with authority as delineated in job descriptions
- Christ is the ultimate head of the church
- The church covenants with the denomination to share resources and support ministries beyond the local church
- Covenants with the local association to cooperate in matters of search and call, ministerial standing and inter-church cooperation





MAY PANCAKE BREAKFAST

Is All About

MUSIC!




Where: Ledyard Congregational Church Fellowship Hall
722 Col. Ledyard Hwy., Ledyard CT

When: Saturday May 2, 7:30–10:00 a. m.

Why: To support the church’s Music Ministry

How: Come and eat breakfast . . .
. . . and please consider making a donation.

What: **FREE** breakfast includes scrambled eggs, sausages, pancakes, beverages, and creamed chipped beef on toast.

What Else: Music! Members and supporters of the Music Ministry will provide entertainment for your dining pleasure: vocal, and instrumental, both sacred and secular.

COME AND JOIN US!

For more information about our church, use this QR code!




Please let the church office know if someone is ill, hospitalized or in need of a visit or phone call!

806-464-9926.

Thank you!

Announcement!

The writing group is back!
We meet on Thursday,
from 1:00-2:30 P.M.
in the Holdridge Library.
All are welcome!

Sponsored by the LCC Women's Fellowship.

Women's FELLOWSHIP

Tuesday, April 14th's Meeting



On Tuesday, April 14th, Elahna Sherman gave an enthusiastic presentation about Avalonia Land Conservancy. Those in attendance were enlightened about the work of Avalonia and how blessed we are to have such wonderful local opportunities to get out and enjoy nature.

Did you know?

- There are 7 Avalonia Land Conservancy preserves right in Ledyard's backyard.
- Avalonia Land Conservancy has conserved more than 5,000 precious acres in 8 towns in Southeastern Connecticut, with more to come.
- The Avalonia preserves are for in perpetuity.
- Some of the preserves are accessible to those with disabilities.
- Where appropriate, trails are maintained for passive enjoyment including hiking, birdwatching, nature study, and photography.

The word Avalonia comes from a tectonic plate that was an independent continent about 500 million years ago and is currently divided between southwestern Great Britain and eastern North America. Some of this plate is in

Southeastern Connecticut.

Visit <https://avalonia.org/> for more information about trails, maps, and the work of Avalonia. Pamphlets are also available on the table in Fellowship Hall.



Tuesday, April 28th Luncheon Out 12:p.m.

Our April luncheon out will be held at **toast + tonic creative kitchen** in Mystic, located in the Old Mystic Village. Their menu includes a combo of creative dishes and super sweets baked in-house with a focus on fresh, innovative ingredients, and desserts! We have been there before and many can attest to the delicious food and pastries. This could be a fun outing--with shopping afterwards as desired!

Please RSVP using [this link](#) or via email to Jill at <gbthorne@sbcglobal.net> or via phone at (860) 912-0924. And, if after RSVPing, your plans change and you are no longer able to attend **PLEASE** contact Jill to let her know. Hope you can join us!

Tuesday May 12th Meeting 6:00-7:30 p.m. Note Time Change! Social Hall



Our Tuesday meeting is our year-end meeting where we gather earlier for a light supper of salads and desserts! This is also a time when we spend some time brainstorming possible programs

and activities for the upcoming year. We call it our "chat and plan" meeting!

Once again, we will not be holding a Strawberry Supper this year, but our Board of Missions will be holding a **Free** Community Supper on Thursday, June 18th. Our theme is **Start Your Grill**. Come and see what our amazing cooks come up with. Supper will be served at 5:30pm in Fellowship Hall. This is **FREE** with a donate-what-and-if-you-can supper and is open to all.

Women's Fellowship is open to anyone who would like to join us for any of our activities. You do not need to be a member or even a regular attendee of LCC. Feel free to bring a friend! **All are Welcome!**

Lights Out and Doors Shut!



Don't forget to **turn out all lights** and **close all interior doors**.

Electricity rates have doubled in

Connecticut and all interior doors must be closed when the building is not in use. This is necessary for managing energy costs and fire safety purposes.

THANK YOU!

Faith Formation and Sunday School



Our Sunday School has been bustling with activity and energy as children explore being stewards of our earth, and the many ways that they can be helpers, not only to each other, but in the larger world. To this point, the children raised funds for Heifer International in April, and in May



along with others in our congregation, many will participate in the Rotary's One Epic Day of Service.

Mark your Calendar for these Upcoming Events

Saturday, May 16th Rotary's Epic Day of Service

This is a wonderful opportunity to volunteer as a family, and Missions is a sponsor of this event. The sign-up sheet is in Fellowship Hall. More details can be found in the Mission's article on page 5.

Sunday, June 7th Children's Sunday

This will be a celebration of all that the children learned in Sunday School. This service will mark the end of Sunday School for the Summer.

Sunday, September 13th

Homecoming (formerly Rally Day) Sunday School will resume with a

celebration. We will send out more information during the summer.

As you make your summer plans, you may want to consider the following:

Silver Lake Camp



Week-long camps are available for children grades 4 through 12 with

sliding-scale tuition. Registration is currently open. <https://www.silverlakect.org/summercamp>

Heifer International

Keep the learning going with Heifer Family Fun Packs, <https://www.heifer.org/campaign/family-fun-packs>.

You may also like to explore A Kid Can Change The World for age appropriate activities on generosity and compassion, <https://www.heifer.org/take-action/get-involved/faith/a-kid-can-change-the-world>

News from the Nursery



With the wonderful addition of new families, the crib room is a busy place.

The new pagers make it easy for us to stay in communication with parents who are in the Sanctuary. Would you like to volunteer to help Kristie in the crib room? Reach out to Anita,

armerando@gmail.com.

Adult Faith Formation



We want to thank Bonnie Denton for a wonderful six week Meditation

Workshop. The workshop was well attended with opportunities to learn, practice and share. It was a transformational experience.

In addition to in-person Bible Study and Book Group, we will set up a zoom link for those who can't attend in person. The link will be available in the weekly eblast.

Bible Study is Monday mornings from 10:30-11:30 and Book Group meets Wednesday evenings from 7:00-8:00 PM. Both groups meet in the Holdridge Library.

Do you have an idea for an adult faith formation study? We would love to hear from you. Reach out to Anita, armerando@gmail.com, or attend our monthly meeting.

Small Groups continue to meet at individual homes. If you are not connected with a small group, but wish to join, speak with Pastor Pat.

We meet the second Wednesday of each month. All are welcome to join us. Our next meeting is May 13th. Adult FF meets at 11:00 a.m. and Sunday School FF at 12:00 p.m.



FREE! Pancake Breakfast

Join us the first Saturday of each month in Fellowship Hall from 7:30-10:00 a.m. Enjoy a delicious breakfast of fresh hot coffee, orange juice, pancakes, sausage, scrambled eggs, and chip beef!

Come and sit for a while. Enjoy conversation and fellowship!

Each month, all profits from the free-will donations will go to support the featured organization.

Saturday, May 2nd

All donations will go to help fund the **Ledyard Congregational Church music program.**

Saturday, June 6th

All donations will go to the Ledyard Inter-Church Emergency Fund, Inc. (LICEAF)

Saturday, July 4th

There will be NO Pancake Breakfast in July due to the holiday.

Saturday, August 1st

All donations will go to the Tri Town Trail Association.

Thank you for your continuing support for all the organizations!

ALL ARE WELCOME. JOINS US!



Easter flowers



Easter Flowers Given In Memory Of: Given By:

Our Parents & Siblings Sara & Dave Holdridge
 Jane & Wee Smith..... Beth Smith
 Wesley & Carol Rethwill, Carrie & Ken Burger
 Herb & Mary Burger
 Earl, Doris, & Robert Lamb, Marion Singer, Lori Pocock,
 Henry Singer & Tim Pocock Pat & Jeff Yuhas
 Jim Sorensen Barbara Sorensen
 John H. & Ruth V, Clark Donna & John Clark
 Margaret H. & Burriss G. Wilson Margaret Wilson
 Lena Marie & Willard Dambach The Dambach Family
 Alison & Ed Slade, Kenny Slade, Meredith & Chris Schuft
 Cara Petruzella, Betty & Howard Schuft,
 Skip & Sue Morrison

Our Parents Karen & Andrew Stockton
 Michael Maskulak Darlene Maskulak

Easter Flowers Given in Honor Of: Given By:

Children of the Future The Saums Family
 The Hartford Health Cancer Team..... Karen & Jim Rhoades



Our next **wheelchair accessible Sunday worship service** will be on **May 3, 2026** when we will worship in Fellowship Hall. Enter through the double doors into the Hall. (Bill Library side.)



Love & blessings for our members & their families who serve our country.

Troy Hedman	Kyle Murphy
Tye Frazer	Oliver Murphy

If we look at the things that were most important to Jesus, it gives us insight into what our discipleship should look like.

Issues of the Church Chatter Are Available on the Church Website




Did you know you can find this issue of the Chatter plus the past two months on the church website? Just go to: ledyardcongregational.org and click on the Chatter drop down box.



Looking for Greeters for Sunday Morning Worship Service

We are looking for people to help with greeting people to our Sunday morning worship services. It's a great way to lend a hand in welcoming everyone.

If you are interested being one of our happy and friendly greeters on Sundays, please speak with Beth Ayer after church or contact her via email: girlsmomX3@comcast.net or by phone: [\(860\) 608-5951](tel:8606085951).



JUNE Chatter Deadline is **FRIDAY, MAY 15th.**

Please email your article to me by the 15th at: chrisandmeri@gmavt.net.

As a reminder, putting the Chatter together is like trying to put a puzzle together without knowing how many pieces or what the size of those pieces will be until I get everyone's submissions.

The Chatter has increased from 12 to 20 pages, which has added significant time to the production time!

Thank You, Meredith Schuft

Church World Services Blankets — 2026

In May, we will celebrate all the women in our lives with blankets through the **Church World Service's Blanket Sunday program**. We are inviting you to participate by purchasing blankets at \$10.00 each in honor or memory of someone. To do so, simply fill in the information below and make a check out to **Ledyard Congregational Church with CWS Blanket Fund on the memo line**. Then mail both to Ellen Seeman, 8 Darrows Ridge Rd., East Lyme, CT 06333 or leave it in the clerk's mailbox outside the church offices. Orders must be received by Sunday, **May 10th, Mother's Day** when we will dedicate all the blankets we purchased. Order forms are also available on the table in the Fellowship Hall. **Please print clearly!**

Your Name(s): _____ Phone #: _____

Name(s) to be remembered:

Name(s) to be honored:

Numbers of blankets ordered: _____ Check enclosed for \$ _____ (made out to: **Ledyard Congregational Church**)





Church Chatter May 2026

*A publication of Ledyard Congregational Church, United Church of Christ
Whoever you are, wherever you are on life's journey, you are welcome here!*

Church Office Hours

Monday through Thursday

8:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.

Phone: 860-464-9926

Email:

ledyard.cong.church@gmail.com

Website:

www.ledyardcongregational.org

Ledyard Congregational Church
722 Colonel Ledyard Highway
Ledyard, CT 06339

Sunday Worship 9:30 a.m. in the
Sanctuary, also via Zoom and
FaceBook.

Along with Sunday School, and
Nursery/Childcare



Time Dated Material
Return Service Requested