

**Our Vision—A beacon of God’s love radiating faith, hope and joy... Everywhere!**

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**The flowers are given this morning by Laura and Ray Brown  
in honor of Emmeline’s second birthday on April 3**

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**The flowers are given by Harriet and Melvin Kinnett in celebration of  
Kathrine Ann Dean's birthday**

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### **Troop 81 Hosting Palm Sunday Pancake Breakfast Today**



Troop 81 BSA invites you to a pancake breakfast fundraiser on Sunday, April 2nd from 8am-11am. We will be serving pancakes, butter/syrup, fruit, coffee, tea, and juice for a suggested donation of \$10 per person, \$8 for senior citizens/kids under 5.

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### **CHOCOLATE SALE Today Sunday, April 2<sup>nd</sup> After both services**

The youth will be selling homemade chocolate in the hall area after both worship services. This is a fundraiser for their mission trip to Youth 2023 in Daytona Beach, FL.



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### **Wednesday Lenten Soup Supper and Service Thank You!**

A big **THANK YOU** to everyone who participated in the Wednesday Lenten soup suppers and services this year. Whether you provided food, led a service, attended the supper and/or service, or watched the service, we appreciate your involvement. A special thank you to Betsey Driscoll for organizing the suppers and providing her minestrone soup each week, Maylis for her music, and to those who led services: Suzanne Hevelone, Dan Ward, Jim Ortolf, Marcia Dana, and Charles McCrea. You each made our Lenten journey so very meaningful!

### **Opportunities During Holy Week**

- April 2 **PALM / PASSION SUNDAY** – Worship at 8:30 and 10:45 am. Troop 81-sponsored pancake breakfast, 8:00 – 11:00 am. Chocolate sale by our Youth Group in the hall after each service. Church school at 9:30 am and adult ed at 9:45 am.
- April 6 **HOLY THURSDAY – Seder Meal** at 6:00 pm and **Evening worship** at 7:30 pm. Join us for the Aldersgate take on a traditional Jewish Seder experience with ceremony and food. To attend and/or help cook, sign up on the welcome desk or notify Betsy in the church office, by Saturday, April 1. Mike Kane will provide recipes for these simple, traditional dishes. If you have questions, you can email him at [mdkane22@gmail.com](mailto:mdkane22@gmail.com) or call 978-590-0556. A service of Holy Communion will follow at 7:30 pm in the Sanctuary. (It will be livestreamed, and a recording of the service will be posted on the church web site.) Quiet prayer time in the Sanctuary, 8:30 pm – 10:00 pm.
- April 7 **GOOD FRIDAY** – The Sanctuary will be open and available for prayer time from 7:00 am to 6:30 pm, with a prayer service afterward at 6:30 pm. Please sign up on the list in the welcome area for a time if you would like to pray or come whenever you would like. Soft music will be played by Jane Vooyoys from noon to 3:00 pm.
- April 8 **EASTER EGG HUNT** – Saturday at 10:00 am. Friends are welcome! (Indoors if necessary!) Join in for a morning of fun including crafts, a movie about the First Easter and a fabulous egg hunt!
- April 9 **EASTER SUNDAY** – Easter Breakfast in the Fellowship Hall, 7:30 – 10:30 am, with worship at 8:30 & 10:45 a.m. There will be no church school for children and adults. There will be Communion at both services.

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### **The 35<sup>th</sup> Massachusetts Spring Ring**

The 35<sup>th</sup> Massachusetts Spring Ring is almost here! We are excited to have seven of our ringers joining the massed performances this year.

When: Saturday, April 22, 2023

Concert Time: 3:00 PM-4:30 PM

Place: Tewksbury Memorial High School.  
320 Pleasant Street, Tewksbury, MA

The concert is open to the public and offers a wonderful opportunity for you to come and see the beauty and excitement of handbell ringing, and to support our own ringers! You will get to hear some of the pieces we are performing at church this season, but with many more bells! Looking forward to seeing you at this year’s Spring Ring!

## To my dear Aldersgate family,

While my heart may be irreparably broken, it is at the same time overflowing with love and gratitude for all the support our family has received since my mother's passing. Words can never adequately express my heartfelt appreciation for all who contributed to making my mom's service such a beautiful honoring of her life. Aldersgate truly is the church with a warm heart and we're blessed beyond measure to be part of this church family.

Blessings,  
Sherri and family

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### Celebration of Life for Stanley Marson Jr.

A Celebration of Life Service will take place on Saturday, April 29, 2023, at 11:00 am at Aldersgate United Methodist Church, 242 Boston Rd., Chelmsford. Casual attire is welcomed. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in Stanley's memory to Kennedy Disease Association, P.O. Box 1105, Coarsegold, CA 93614-1105 or to the charity of your choice.

After the service there will be a time of refreshments in the Fellowship Hall. The Marson family invites you to join them.



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### EASTER EGG HUNT - Saturday, April 8<sup>th</sup> 10:00 am – 11:30 am

Join us for fun crafts, an Easter Egg Hunt and a special movie – bring your friends!

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**EASTER BREAKFAST - APRIL 9<sup>TH</sup> 7:30 – 10:30 a.m.**  
**Easter Services: 8:30 & 10:45 a.m. No Church School**

**Breakfast menu:** Egg Benedict, French Toast, Hash Browns, Fruit selection, Bacon/sausage, Baked Goods, Yogurt Parfait, Cold cereal

**Vegan/Gluten Free Breakfast Menu:** Breakfast Casserole, Sausage and Fruited Coffee Cake



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### Rummage Sale May 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup>

Our annual Rummage Sale will be on May 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup>. Please start saving your rummage items and add this to your calendar. We will also need your help setting up and working the sale. Watch for more information coming soon

## Early Bird Bible Study

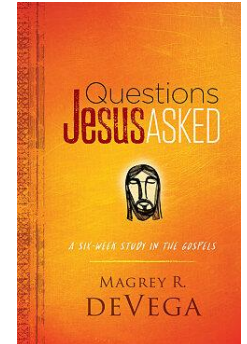
The topic this week will be Forgiveness: Family Feud (Part 4) - The Journey Home. After nearly twenty years with his uncle (and father-in-law) Laban, Jacob takes his family and heads back to his homeland and face the past. It is a road to reconciliation. The story of Jacob and Esau can be found in Genesis 25-33. We will explore the struggles between these brothers that began in their mother's womb and extended into adulthood. It is a story replete with trickery, deceit, favoritism and finally reconciliation and forgiveness. Plan to join the discussion as we learn more of what is required to forgive and be reconciled. Early Bird meets Tuesday morning at ten o'clock via Zoom.

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### Next Opportunity for Community and Study

#### “What does Jesus want to know about us?”

Jesus was fond of asking questions, many of which cut right to the heart of what it means to be human. Why are you terrified? What do you live for? Who do you say that I am? In *Questions Jesus Asked*, author Magrey deVega explores six of the most provocative questions Jesus posed to others and guides us in answering them for ourselves.



Asking these questions takes courage. Not only do they reveal what Jesus really cares about, they open a window into our hearts. We all have questions for God, but growth happens when we turn things around and ask what Jesus wants to know about us. When we dare to raise them, these questions bring us a fuller appreciation for the wisdom, power, and presence of God in our lives. Are you willing to step out in faith? Are you ready to answer the questions Jesus asked?”

Join the Adult Class, held in the Concord Room at 9:45 on Sunday mornings to discuss these questions and discover more about ourselves, God's role in our lives and those we are in community with.

We have a seat for YOU! Class starts April 16. Books can be ordered online, but are not necessary to take part in the class.