



The Congregational Church of Topsfield InSpire Weekly News & Updates

April 17, 2025 / Issue 223

Join Our Mailing List

Visit our website



Sunday Morning

Join us for worship online and in person.

View the Zoom link for the Sunday Service [here](#)
Sunday's bulletin [here](#)
Easter Plant Dedications [here](#)



Donate to Community Giving Tree to honor or remember a special mom this Mother's Day!

Mother's Day is Sunday, May 11th. Donate \$25 to Community Giving Tree and a personalized Mother's Day card will be sent to a special mother that you wish to honor. The proceeds will help provide diapers, clothing and baby supplies to moms in need in the North Shore area. Click [here](#) to order your card(s).



Lent and Easter Calendar

Maundy Thursday Service:
Thursday, April 17th
7:00pm in the Meetinghouse
(will not be broadcasted via Zoom or Community T.V.)

Good Friday Concert:
Friday, April 18th



7:00pm in the Meetinghouse

Easter Sunday–Sunrise Service:

Sunday, April 20th

6:00am Sunrise Service at:

Ipswich River Wildlife Sanctuary
(87 Perkins Row, Topsfield)

Easter Service:

Sunday, April 20th

9:30am in the Meetinghouse

Easter Egg Hunt After Service:

In front of the Meetinghouse Church
Lawn

~All children and youth are welcome
and bags will be provided!



**Sunday School Schedule
Sunday, April 20th**

There will be no Sunday School on the
20th, as we will all join the Easter
service together. The Egg Hunt will
immediately follow the service!
All are welcome!

**JACKSON
CARRUTHERS**

A SPECIAL CONCERT OF
CONTEMPLATIVE PIANO MUSIC

Good Friday, April 18th 2025

*Congregational
Church of Topsfield
Meetinghouse*

7:00 P.M. | Free Admission

In the spirit of Holy Week, CC&T Music Director and Organist Jackson Carruthers will present a program of reflective music by Franz Schubert and Franz Liszt. The concert will include Schubert's Sonata in G Major, Op. 78, as well as Liszt's *Les jeux d'eau a la Villa d'Este*. Please join us for this unique musical journey!

**SCOUT YARD SALE – May 10th
8:30AM to 2:00PM**

Topsfield Scout Troop 81 will have its
annual Yard Sale and Plant & Shrub
Sale on Saturday, May 10th on the
Topsfield Common from 8:30AM to
2:00PM.

**Donations will be accepted from
Topsfield, Boxford and Middleton
residents on Saturday, April 26 and
Saturday, May 3 from 9:00AM –
2:00PM in the Emerson Center parking
lot.**

All items should be fully functional,
cleaned, with no mold or mildew, and
in saleable condition. Items accepted
include kitchen goods, household
items, cloth & apparel, furniture,
sports equipment, toys, tools, and
books. Please note that **NO** particle
board furniture, oversize or sleep
sofas, mattresses, large appliances,
gas grills or tanks, TVs/monitors,
exercise machines, tires, car seats,
encyclopedias/magazines, pillows,
stuffed animals, or suitcases will be
accepted.

For more info visit:
Troop81Topsfield.com or contact us
at: troop81web@gmail.com.



Buildings and Grounds Update

- Over the last month, a boiler leak in the Emerson Center basement was repaired for \$850 and also an issue with the elevator was resolved.
- Spring gutter and catch basin drain cleaning will be performed soon with the help of our landscaping crew.



Easter Offering

During the Lenten season it is the custom of our church to hold a special offering collected Easter Sunday intended to help those in need.

This year the Board of Missions and Outreach has chosen "**One Great Hour of Sharing**", which is one of four special mission offerings of the United Church of Christ. This Easter Offering supports the disaster, refugee, and development ministries of the United Church of Christ within Wider Church Ministries.

Learn more about this mission [here](#).

Ways to donate:

- Easter Offering envelopes will be available in the pews on Easter Sunday
- Send a check made out to: Congregational Church of Topsfield with "Easter Offering" in the memo line
- Make an electronic contribution through our church's website.

Thank you!



Congratulations to our Confirmands!

We are so proud of **Everett Miller** and **James Love Jr.** on getting confirmed last Sunday. Their Faith Statements showed us how far their Faith journey has taken them. Thank you also to the Prayer Shawl Ministry for making the beautiful shawls that were presented on this special day!



Coffee Fellowship

April 20: Easter coffee in the narthex and Easter Egg Hunt on the Meetinghouse church lawn after service

May 4: The Nulsen Family

May 11: Hosts Needed

May 18: Intergenerational Family Service, CCoT families will host

Coffee Fellowship Sign Ups Take on a New Look!

As promised, the Board of Community and Communications will be rolling out a new and improved method to allow for easy sign ups for coffee hour. As we continue to try and build community, we appreciate everyone's help in chipping in to make coffee hour a meaningful time of connection for us all.

To access the sign up sheet, please use the following link: [Here](#)

As you can read in the description on the web page, you can sign up to host coffee/tea, snacks or both. Everyone is encouraged to sign up with a friend to make the load a bit easier. Please be specific in the comments of what



Thank You!

A big thank you to all that were able to support our Easter Service Sunday to make Easter baskets for Incarcerated youth that are being served by our mission partner, **Straight Ahead Ministries**.

We assembled 35 bags with a pair of socks, candy, snacks, a deck of cards, chapstick and a daily devotional along with a handwritten Easter card so that they know people do care no matter their situation. These bags of caring will be shared at either the Lawrence or Middleton locations.

Yours in sharing God's love through action~
The Board of Mission and Outreach

you will bring for food. If you sign up, it's important to stay for clean up. Members of the Board of Community and Communications will be happy to offer individualized and/or group tutorials on the coffee maker, set up and clean up, including operating the dishwasher!

Please also note that there will be no coffee hour offered on select Sundays falling on holiday weekends.

Please consider signing up for a slot or two so that coffee hour and fellowship can continue!

Many thanks,
Members of the Board of Community and Communications



CCT Masking Policy

Preserving the Health of the Congregation During Worship

Masking at worship remains voluntary. Worshipers are always welcome to wear a mask.

Careful hand washing or use of hand sanitizers is effective in preventing the spread of and acquisition of disease.

Please do not come to in-person worship if you are feeling ill. Instead, watch the service on Zoom or Boxford Community TV.

Keep your vaccinations against respiratory pathogens current.

Sincerely,
The Board of Deacons



Lazarus House Ministries is a mission partner of our church located in Lawrence, MA that serves individuals and families in the Lawrence and greater Merrimack Valley area. Their aim is to provide what is needed most by families and individuals facing material poverty, homelessness, and food insecurity in the areas of shelter, clothing, food, advocacy and community resources.

The Board of Community and Communications and the Board of Missions will partner together over the next several of weeks to support this Ministry by collecting much needed personal care products. Beginning April 21st through June 14th we will be collecting the following items in any size you are able to donate. This might be a good time to clean out the hotel samples you have collected!

- Body Wash
- Shampoo
- Conditioner
- Toothpaste
- Toothbrushes
- Deodorant

Items can be left in a bin outside the door of the main office.

One important part of any mission project is to develop a deeper understanding of the programing provided as well as nurturing personal relationships. Thus, any interested member of the church is invited to visit Lazarus House on Monday, June 16th at 10:30am for a brief tour of the facilities and to drop off items collected. If you are interested in joining us, please reach out to Dolly McIlvaine at mciltopsfield@comcast.net or Cathy Imboden at cbimboden@gmail.com. Carpooling will be available. We hope everyone will participate in this worthwhile mission project to help this most vulnerable population.

In Service,
Cathy Imboden and Dolly McIlvaine



Mental Health **FIRST AID**
from NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR MENTAL WELLBEING

**YOUTH MENTAL
HEALTH FIRST AID**

**LEARN HOW TO SUPPORT THE
YOUNG PEOPLE IN YOUR LIFE**

Youth Mental Health First Aid teaches you how to identify, understand and respond to signs of mental health and substance use challenges among adolescents ages 12-18. You'll build skills and confidence you need to reach out and provide initial support to young people who are struggling. You'll also learn how to help connect them to appropriate support.

Join the more than
2.6 MILLION

First Aiders who have chosen to be the difference in their community.

Learn how to respond with the Mental Health First Aid Action Plan (ALICE):

- A**ssess for risk of suicide or harm.
- L**isten nonjudgmentally.
- C**are reassurance and information.
- E**ncourage appropriate professional help.
- T**each or encourage self-help and other support strategies.

AFTER THE COURSE, YOU'LL BE ABLE TO:

- Recognize common signs and symptoms of mental health challenges, including anxiety, depression, eating disorders and attention deficit hyperactive disorder (ADHD).
- Recognize common signs and symptoms of substance use challenges.
- Understand how to interact with a young person in crisis.
- Know how to connect a young person with help.
- Better understand trauma, substance use, self-care and the impact of social media and bullying.

Scan the QR code to register or go to tritowncouncil.org/events



Questions? Contact Meredith Shaw at: mshaw@tritowncouncil.org

Register today for this FREE 2 day in-person training!*

DATE: April 29 - 30th (must attend both days)

TIME: 9 - 1PM

LOCATION: Trinity Episcopal Church, 124 River Rd. Topsfield

INSTRUCTORS: Windi Bowditch & Erin Clasby, Northshore Education Consortium

*Training qualifies for 8 PDP's through Northshore Education Consortium. Please note: Must attend both sessions to qualify for PDP's and to receive a Youth Mental Health First Aid training certificate.

Youth Mental Health First Aid training is generously funded by the Town of Boxford's Opioid Abatement Settlement and van Otterloo Family Foundation.



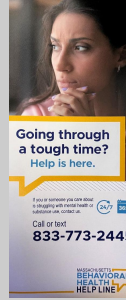
**CCoT Spring Clean-Up
Saturday, May 3rd!**

A "Spring Clean-up Day" has been scheduled for **Saturday, May 3rd 9am-11am rain or shine.**

Grab your rakes and work gloves and join the members of Boy Scout Troop 81 to clean up the grounds of the Emerson Center.

Any questions and to sign up, please contact Susie Read at:

buildingandgrounds@topfieldchurch.org



Going through a tough time? Help is here.

Call or text **833-773-2445**

MASSACHUSETTS BEHAVIORAL HEALTH HELP LINE

The Massachusetts Behavioral Health Help Line

Learn more [here](#)

Parish Care Ministry
View the Prayer Listing [page](#) and April birthday [page](#)



SNEUCC-
Southern New England Conference-UCC [page](#)



UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
a just world for all

UCC Newsletter
[page](#)



The Congregational Church of Topsfield | 9 East Common Street | Topsfield, MA 01983 US

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