



MARCH

The Congregational Chatter



THOTS FROM TOM

This month Spring returns! We are in the midst of Lent, and with Easter falling on April 1 I will be highlighting our Holy Week and Easter schedule.

The Caretaker's Support Group will meet on Saturday, March 10 at 9 am in the Emma Prince Lounge. We have someone coming to the meeting to talk about Medicare and Medicaid issues, particularly around hospital admissions and follow-up rehabilitative care. This program is open to anyone who is assisting an aging parent or relative as they age.

New Members will be joining our church on March 11 during the morning worship service. If you are interested in joining, please speak to me soon, and I will arrange a pre-joining meeting with you.

The Men's Night Out dinner will be held on Tuesday, March 13 at WAVES Restaurant in East Hampton. We are looking for additional participants. This is a once a month gathering of the men in our church and their friends, neighbors, co-workers who enjoy getting together for "man talk" about household projects, stuff at work, their kids and grandkids, the state of the world, and anything else that comes to our minds. If interested please let me know so that I can make restaurant reservations.

I will be holding a parents and youth information meeting regarding an Affirmation of Baptism service and joining of the church for youth in grades 7 and up in the Emma Prince Lounge after worship on Sunday, March 18 to discuss the Affirmation of Baptism Service and the process for youth to join the church. If you are interested in participating, please speak to me.

On Sunday, march 25 we will hold our monthly "Teens for Lunch" gathering in the lounge

for teens in grades seven and up.

Our Maundy Thursday service will be held at 6:30 pm on Thursday, March 29. The service will begin in fellowship hall with a simple meal of soup, bread, cheese and fruit and finish in the sanctuary with Tenebrae.

Easter morning service, April 1 will be held at 10 am and will feature special music by the choir and Holy Communion.

Have a blessed month!

Tom

FAMILY **March 4, 2018** SUNDAY



College Care Packages **Addresses Needed**

If you have or know of a college student who would like to receive a Care Package from the church, please email their address to Lisa Aarrestad at laarrestad@comcast.net



C. Estelle Dickson **Scholarship**

The C. Estelle Dickson Scholarship was designed to assist any church member who is pursuing a two or four year degree.

You will find an application on the last page of this newsletter or you may pick one up at the church office.

Applications must be received by the committee by April 6th.

This year the committee decided that the scholarship will be awarded during the church service on Youth Sunday, May 20th so that our church family can share in the presentation.

Please contact Teri Schlosser, Billie Gerkey or Joyce Jasenski with any questions.

Holy Week Schedule



Palm/Passion Sunday
March 25th, 10:00am service
observed with palms

Maundy Thursday Service
Thursday, March 29th, 6:30pm

This service begins with a simple meal and Holy Communion in the Fellowship Hall and concludes with the Service of Tenebrae in the Sanctuary. This service is both a time of fellowship and profound spiritual awakening.

Easter Morning Worship
Sunday, April 1st

Sunrise Service at Sears Park, 6:30am

The clergy of Second Congregational Church of Middle Haddam, Bethlehem Evangelical Lutheran Church and the Congregational Church of East Hampton will be holding a service at the beach at Sears Park on April 1. Tentative time for the service is 6:30. More publicity for the service will be in Sunday bulletins and in the *Rivereast*. Please bring a lawn chair and dress warmly; it is often chilly down near the water

Easter Worship Service

Easter morning service will be held at 10 am and will feature special music by the choir and Holy Communion.

Children's Easter Egg Hunt after worship

This is open to all the young children who are in worship!



CHOIR REHEARSALS
on Thursdays
Handbells ~ 6pm
Adult Choir ~ 7:10pm



The East Hampton Yarners

Thursdays, March 1st & 15th

Join us at 10am & 7pm in Fellowship Hall!

On Thursday, March 29th we will meet at 10am followed by lunch together.

Come join our fun and learn good stuff!



For more information contact Judy Hoffhine
 860-365-0327 or jhoffhine@gmail.com



Support Group for Caretakers
Saturday, March 10th
9am-10:30am in the lounge

OPEN to the public.

All are welcome ~ Bring a friend!

Coffee, refreshments and
 a shoulder to lean on provided.



Thank you to everyone who attended the third annual TASTE of EAST HAMPTON...or bought tickets to support us or donated an auction or raffle item or bid on

something during the auction. *We had a wonderful afternoon eating great food, visiting with great friends and having great fun!*

Thank you to all participating East Hampton businesses:

The Lucky Goat	The Dublin
Angelico's Lakehouse	The Tavern on 66
Da Vinci	Little Man Sweets.

Please make an effort to visit one of these and let them know we appreciate their generosity.

Thank you to my "Team": Deb, Karen, Bob, Kayla, Dave, Ann, Evan, Zachary, Sierra, Tim and Winnie. We couldn't have done it without you!
 Lisa



The One Great Hour of Sharing Offering will be received on Sunday, March 11. This offering makes the love of Christ real for individuals and communities around the world who suffer the effects of disaster, conflict, or severe economic hardship. Active in over 100 countries, this offering supports efforts in Water Projects, Empowerment, Hunger Relief, and Disaster Relief. Please join with 29 denominations in helping thousands of people whom we will never know and yet who are our neighbors. *If you cannot be in church on the 11th, please send your contribution to the church with OGHS in the memo line of your check.*



Our Deacons have decided that doughnut holes will no longer be provided during coffee due to a lack of donated funds to cover the cost.

Please sign up to provide a baked good to share during coffee hour.

You may purchase an item or share a home-made treat such as cookies, bars, breads... whatever you like. Thank you for your participation in making coffee hour pleasant and inviting to all our members and friends!



Ladies Potluck

Monday, March 12th at 6:30

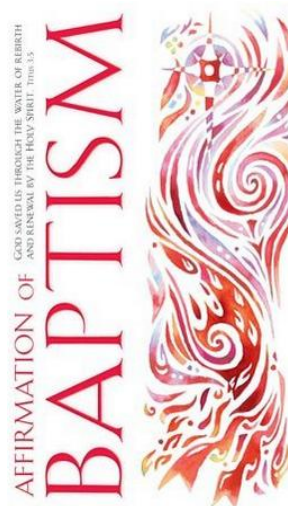
hosted by Anita Guerin ~ 55 Lake Drive

Please bring a dish to share and a book idea and join us for fellowship and conversation
FIRST-TIMERS ALWAYS WELCOME!

Men's Night Out

This invitation goes out to all men in the church inviting you to get together for good food and talk in one of our local restaurants. We meet once a month. Need to get out of the house? Want to talk about the numerous spring projects awaiting you? Want to enlist some help with them? Want to share with others how great retirement is going, how things are at work, what's up with the stock market, what hobbies you need warm weather to dive into, where the skiing is good right now, what's going on with your children or grandkids? There is a place and a venue! **A gathering for Men's Night Out is scheduled for 5:30 pm on Tuesday, March 13 at WAVES** to just visit, eat, and enjoy the talk, (and if you are so disposed, you don't even have to say a word!) If you plan to attend, please contact Tom so that he can make the appropriate reservations.

Affirmation of Baptism Information Meeting



An Affirmation of Baptism service and joining of the church will occur on Sunday, June 3. This opportunity is for youth in grades 7 and up. **An informational meeting will be held in the Emma Prince Lounge after worship on Sunday, March 18** to discuss the Affirmation of Baptism Service and the process for youth to join the church.

If you are interested in participating, please speak to the pastor.

Teens For Lunch

On Sunday, **March 25** *Teens for Lunch* will meet after worship in the church lounge. This is open to all youth in grades seven and up. In this casual gathering teens meet to enjoy pizza and talk about how life is going.





Thank you to Peter Strickland for restoring and refinishing our Christmas Eve Candelabra.

Thank you to Chuck Hoffhine for replacing several tiles on our kitchen floor and repairing the kitchen counter top.

Thank you to Rae Strickland for making our beautiful new curtains for the stage in Fellowship Hall. They are fabulous! And thank you to her trusty sidekick, Pete, for putting up the hardware and along with Chuck Hoffhine hanging them.

Thank you Peter Aarrestad for taking on the "church mice". You really are a mouse whisperer!

Thank you Tom, Jerry and Chuck for all the extra work done in preparation for the fire inspection, kitchen repairs and Fellowship Hall floor buffing.

THANK-YOU! to all our ever-present church mice whose work continues to show up in unexpected places at just the right times!

You are Appreciated!



Help decorate our sanctuary this Easter by ordering an Easter Lily in memory of a loved one, in honor of a special occasion, or to celebrate the season.

Any reason will do!

Please include **\$9. per 6" plant** with your order.

Checks should be made payable to "CCEH" with "Easter Lily" on the memo line.

You may place your order in the offering plate or drop it off at the church office. (P.O. Box 237)

Orders due Sunday, March 25th

Please let us know what you would like printed in the Easter Sunday Bulletin:

Given by: _____

Phone: _____

In Celebration of: _____

In Loving Memory of: _____

of Lilies ordered _____
Payment included \$ _____
Check # _____

Following the April 1st 10am Easter Service,

___ I will take my lily home.

___ I will leave my lily for delivery to a church member or friend.



Day by day

Let every dawn of morning be to you as the beginning of life, and every setting sun be to you as its close. Then let every one of these short lives leave its sure record of some kindly thing done for others, some goodly strength or knowledge gained for yourself.

—John Ruskin



COSA Corner

We have come to realize that not everyone knows what COSA stands for - it took me over a year to find out when we moved here. It stands for **Christian Outreach and Social Action**. That is the task of this group as we suggest actions and ministries locally, regionally, nationally, and globally. While the committee recommends and organizes efforts, EVERYONE is needed to make them successful. So get out your calendars! Here are a few dates to record:

March 11, Sunday: One Great Hour of Sharing Offering is collected.

April 21, Saturday: American Red Cross Blood drive in Fellowship Hall. (More info to follow)

April 29 & May 6: Sale of Church World Service cards for the Mother's Day Blanket Drive.

May & June: Collection of non-perishable foods for the Summer Lunches for Kids project for the East Hampton Food Bank.

June 3 & 10: Sale of Church World Service cards for the Father's Day Tool Drive.

End of June through August: - collection of Fresh produce, cheese, meat, etc. for the Summer Lunches for Kids project.

We are planning to conduct an informal needs assessment for East Hampton so that our outreach efforts don't duplicate others and so that our contributions answer real needs. The Summer Lunches for Kids Project is one such project. Last year's was a win for kids, a win for church members, a win for Stop & Shop shoppers, and most importantly a win for the children of our community. We have your lists of suggestions for outreach. All are under consideration and will be informed by the research we do.

Thank you! from your Outreach and Social Action committee:

Alka Arcari, Lily Bartel, Winnie Carillo,
Anita Guerin, Jackie Hooper-Hage, Judy Hoffhine,
Alan Hurst, Martha Lynch, Julie Thomas



College Care Packages

Christian Ed and Parish Life will be collecting goodies for our college students in April. Please bring in something to add to the boxes that will be on the stage in Fellowship Hall **beginning April 1st**. Care Packages will be delivered to students in time for final exams.



SAVE the DATE!

Saturday, April 14th 6-8pm

Join us for a special Potluck/Art Night in Fellowship Hall.

Look for sign-up near the end of March.



Three ways you can sign up to donate blood:
800-REDCROSS (733-2767)
www.redcrossblood.org
download the **Red Cross Blood Donor app**.

Soon you will be able to sign up at the church – more information will follow.

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CONNECTICUT
MISSION of MERCY
Free Dental Clinic



Seeds of Hope

is encouraging participation for volunteers this year with the **Mission of Mercy free dental clinic**.

The program takes place **April 19 - 22** with set up the 19th, volunteering at the clinic the 20th and 21st and take down the 22nd.

The clinic is in Torrington, CT this year.

Volunteers must register at

<http://cfdo.org/ctmom-volunteers.html>.

There are volunteer job descriptions on the site, volunteer videos and additional information.

You must register to participate.

Registration cuts off in March.

Seeds of Hope



3rd Annual Road Race & Fun Run

at the Airline Trail
in East Hampton

SATURDAY, APRIL 28th at 9:00am

More information coming in the April Chatter...

Seeds of Hope

We have found an organization that we will be working with for 2019 Mission Trip. Thanks to Pastor Tom for doing the background research to make sure this organization is in line with our beliefs.

We will be going to Puerto Rico in June of next year. The date that I am looking at is June 22nd - 29th. We will not be able to secure these dates until June or July of this year, the dates are secured on a first-come basis with a non-refundable deposit. We will have a SOH meeting sometime in May with more information. \$1500 is the cost estimate before our fund raising. The policy for this organization for youths is, you must complete the 9th grade by the trip date. Please think about it and we will discuss more in May.

Experiencemission.com

Blessings, Deb McLellan

SCRIP Gift Cards

Gift cards are available to order every Sunday from hundreds of merchants. *Seeds of Hope* receives a percentage of the face value of each card

S&S cards are available every week throughout the year.

Don't forget - we collect bottles and cans all year long and used clothes in good condition can be left in the shed. Please bag your items and be sure to tie off the bag!

Thank you for your continued support that allows Seeds of Hope to help others!



Church on the Move

April 29th

Shared service with
2nd Congregational
10am at CCEH



Mark your
calendars for
Saturday May 19th
9-noon
OUTDOORS!

Sunday, May 20th

Pentecost Sunday

Youth Sunday

Choir Appreciation Luncheon

MARK YOUR
CALENDAR!

13th Annual Belltown Open Golf Tournament

Tuesday, August 7th



**Glastonbury Hills
COUNTRY CLUB**

Registration & Coffee: 8:30-10:00 am

Tee-Time: 10:00 am Shotgun

Format: Scramble to accommodate
all levels of Golfers!

18 Holes with Cart
Lunch & Dinner
included!

Single: \$125

Foursome: \$500

**REGISTER BY
July 15th**

Contact: tuttlekahn@gmail.com

John Tuttle 860-558-0890



*Your participation will benefit the
East Hampton Food & Fuel Bank*

God's mysterious ways

"God moves in a mysterious way, his wonders to perform." These oft-quoted words, from a hymn by English poet William Cowper, come with an unsubstantiated yet powerful back story.

Cowper, who struggled with depression, decided to commit suicide one night. He called a cab to go to the Thames River, planning to drown himself. Such dense fog arose that the driver got lost and finally stopped to let his passenger out. To Cowper's surprise, he was at his own door! He concluded that God had sent the fog to spare his life. The hymn he wrote in response continues:

Ye fearful saints, fresh courage take;
the clouds ye so much dread
are big with mercy and shall break
in blessings on your head. ...

His purposes will ripen fast, unfolding every hour.
The bud may have a bitter taste,
but sweet will be the flower.



43 West High Street
(860) 365-5978
Mondays & Thursdays
9am - noon.

Greetings from the Food Bank. We are so fortunate to live in such a generous community. Your donations of food, time, money and many other resources are appreciated by so many.

Here is a list of some of our needs:

Canned Fruit	Jelly	Tuna
Laundry Soap	Dish Soap	Shampoo
Toilet Paper	Pet Food	

Thank you for your generosity :)
Deb, Food Bank volunteer



Let Lisa Aarrestad know if you or someone you know of from our church family is in need of some helping hands (860-918-1170).

Or call the office (860-267-4959) so we can arrange for meals, rides, help with simple household tasks or just come by and visit!



Medical Equipment



Available for Loan



**Knee- Scooter • Walker
Wheel Chair • Potty**

*Please call the office to arrange for pick-up
Tuesday thru Friday 8am-noon*

860-267-4959



**PRAYER CHAIN
MINISTRY**

Email Lisa Aarrestad at
laarestad@comcast.net
or call 860-918-1170
to have a prayer concern
listed for our "pray-ers".

MUSIC FOR LENT & EASTER



**New England Chamber Choir
and Chamber Orchestra**
Richard Wm. Donohue,
Conductor

Sunday, March 18th
5:00pm
Church of the
Assumption
61 North Cliff Street
Ansonia

Sunday, March 25th
4:00pm
Church of Saint
Colman
170 Hubbard Street
Middlefield



Free Admission ~ Donations Welcome
Reception to follow each performance

A Simple, Generous Choice ~ *Electronic Giving*

Electronic Funds Transfer

(Direct debit from your checking or savings account)

Now available at the Congregational Church of East Hampton

Participate Today.

Electronic Giving is a convenient way to provide consistent financial support to our church.

Open your heart without opening your checkbook

Electronic Giving is the term used to describe automatic methods for making contributions on a regular basis without the need to write checks, carry cash or prepare envelopes.

Frequently Asked Questions About Direct Debit Giving

Q. What are the major advantages of electronic giving by direct debit?

A. Direct debit is all about convenience for you and consistency for the church. Electronic giving eliminates frequent check writing and helps members stay on track with pledges even when they are unable to attend services. The church in turn benefits from much-needed donation consistency and a reduction in the volume of check and cash contributions that must be handled and manually processed in the church office.

Q. How does Direct Debit Giving work?

A. Contributions are transferred automatically from your checking or savings account to the church's bank account.

Q. How are my automatic contributions deducted and transferred?

A. First, you sign and return an authorization form to the church indicating the amount you wish to contribute on a regular basis. Contributions are then transferred through the Automated Clearing House (ACH) network—the same network already used by families to make mortgage and utility payments or to receive payroll earnings and Social Security income. Direct debit goes by other names including Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT), automatic payment, or simply, ACH.

Q. When will my contribution be debited from my account?

A. A debit to your account will occur each month on the date you specify on your authorization form.

Q. How will I keep track of contributions in my check register?

A. Since your contribution is made at a pre-established time, you simply record it in your check register on the appropriate date. Electronic contributions will appear on your bank statement.

Q. What can I use to prove I made a contribution?

A. Your bank statement will show an itemized list of electronic transactions that can be used as proof of your contributions.

Q. Is giving by direct debit risky?

A. It is certainly less risky than writing checks or carrying cash to church. To process electronic donations, the church uses Vanco Services, LLC—an established and highly-regarded company that moves funds directly from church members to the church on the same day without any delay. Vanco processes contributions for more than 10,000 churches and nonprofit organizations.

Q. How much does direct debit giving cost?

A. It costs you nothing and it costs the church very little. It is the lowest cost method of transferring funds.

Q. What if I try electronic giving by direct debit and don't like it?

A. You can cancel your authorization at any time by notifying the church.

Q. How can I sign up for electronic giving by direct debit?

A. Complete, sign and return the authorization form on the following page to the church office.

AUTHORIZATION FORM

Congregational Church of East Hampton

UCC080570

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY	ENVELOPE/DONOR #	DATE
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Effective date of authorization: _____		
Type of Authorization Form:	<input type="checkbox"/> New Authorization <input type="checkbox"/> Change donation amount <input type="checkbox"/> Change donation date	<input type="checkbox"/> Change banking information <input type="checkbox"/> Discontinue electronic donation
Last Name		First Name
Address		
City	State	Zip
Email Address		
Please debit my donation from my: (check one) <input type="checkbox"/> Checking Account (attach a voided check below) <input type="checkbox"/> Savings Account (contact your financial institution for Routing #)		Routing Number: _____ Valid Routing # must start with 0, 1, 2, or 3 Account Number: _____ <small>C 1234567890 123 1234567 0001 Routing Number Account Number Check Number</small>
DATE OF FIRST DONATION: ____/____/____	FREQUENCY OF DONATION: (check only one) <input type="checkbox"/> Semi-Monthly – 1 st and 15 th <input type="checkbox"/> Monthly on the 1 st <input type="checkbox"/> Monthly on the 15 th	FUNDS AND AMOUNTS: <input type="checkbox"/> General Fund \$ _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ \$ _____ Total \$ _____
AGREEMENT I authorize the above church to process debit entries to my account. I understand that this authority will remain in effect until I provide reasonable notification to terminate the authorization. Authorized Signature: _____ Date: _____		

Please attach voided check here.

UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST





SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p>The <u>DEADLINE</u> for submissions to the <u>APRIL 2018</u> issue of <i>The Congregational Chatter</i> <u>is Tuesday, March 27th</u></p>				<p>1 EH Yarners 10am-noon <u>Choirs:</u> Bell, 6pm/ Sr., 7:10pm Scout Parents & Leaders, 7-9pm</p>	2	3
<p>4 Lent 3 Family Sunday Communion Worship, 10am AA, 8pm</p>	<p>5 Tiger Scouts, 6-7pm</p>	<p>6 Boy Scouts, 7pm</p>	<p>7 Art Class, 9:30-11:30am Essential Oils Class, 6-8pm AA, 8pm</p>	<p>8 <u>Choirs:</u> Bell, 6pm/ Sr., 7:10pm Wolves, 6:30pm</p>	9	<p>10 Caregiver Support Group 9am</p>
<p>11 Lent 4 Worship/ New Members, 10am Diaconate, 11:30am AA, 8pm</p>	<p>12 Ladies Pot Luck 6:30pm Bear Scouts, 6:30pm Lions Club Potluck, 6-8pm</p>	<p>13 Men's Night Out, 5:30pm Lions, 6-7pm Webelos / Boy Scouts, 7pm</p>	<p>14 Art Class, 9:30-11:30am AA, 8pm</p>	<p>15 EH Yarners 10am & 7pm <u>Choirs:</u> Bell, 6pm/ Sr., 7:10pm</p>	16	<p>17  St. Patrick's Day</p>
<p>18 Lent 5 Worship, 10am Baptism meeting, 11:30am COSA, 11:30am AA, 8pm</p>	<p>19 Scout Pack Meeting, 7-8pm</p>	<p>20 Boy Scouts, 7pm</p>	<p>21 Art Class, 9:30-11:30am AA, 8pm</p>	<p>22 <u>Choirs:</u> Bell, 6pm/ Sr., 7:10pm</p>	23	24
<p>25 Palm Sunday Worship, 10am Teens for Lunch, 11:30am COSA, 11:30am Boy Scout Council, 7pm AA, 8pm</p>	26	<p>27 DEADLINE for April Newsletter Church Council, 7pm Boy Scouts, 7pm</p>	<p>28 Art Class, 9:30-11:30am Essential Oils Class, 6-8pm AA, 8pm</p>	<p>29 EH Yarners 10am-noon Maundy Thursday Service, 6:30pm</p>	30 Good Friday	31 Holy Saturday

The Congregational Church East Hampton

59 Main Street, P.O. Box 237
East Hampton, Connecticut 06424
860-267-4959 / cceh@juno.com

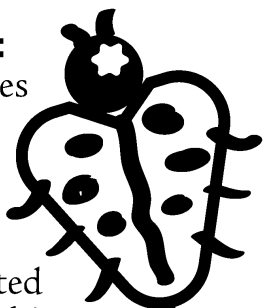
Office Hours: Tuesday thru Friday 8am-noon

FRUIT LADYBUGS

Get creative in the kitchen with this sweet springtime snack.

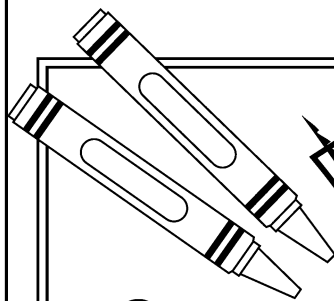
What you need:

- Strawberries (washed)
- Knife
- Plate or wax paper
- ½ cup melted chocolate chips
- Zippered baggie
- Scissors
- Blueberries (washed)
- Adult help



What you do:

1. De-stem the strawberries. Cut in half and then cut a small V at top each half to make the ladybug body. Set them on a plate or wax paper.
2. Place the melted chocolate in a baggie and cut off the tip of a bottom corner.
3. Pipe a dividing line and "spots" on each strawberry. Also use the chocolate to attach a blueberry "head" by the V shape.
4. Pipe chocolate antennas and legs onto ladybugs.
5. Let harden. Enjoy!



PUZZLE

Spring's Beauty

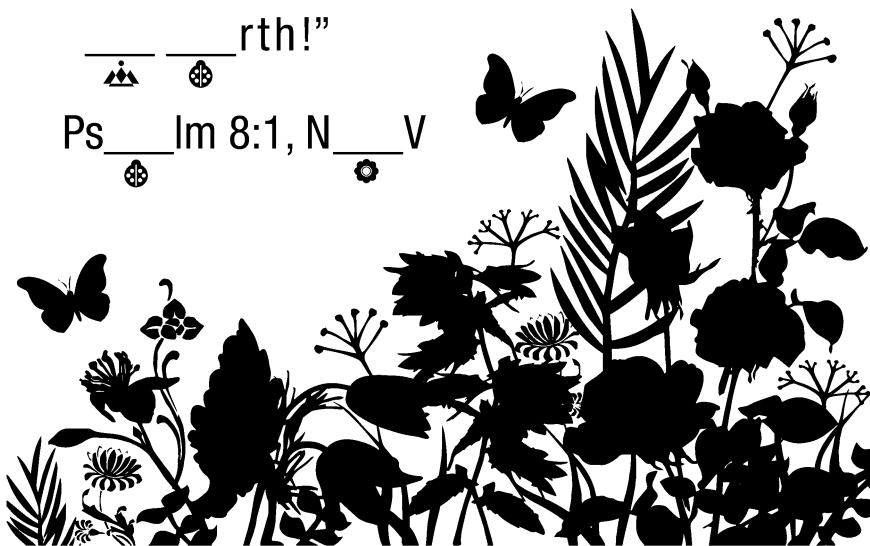
During springtime, the beauty of God's creation emerges in many ways.

Directions: Use the vowel code below to complete Psalm 8:1, NIV.

A = E = I = O = U =

"L__RD, __r L__rd, h__w
m__ j__st__c __s y__r
n__ m__ n__ ll th__
__rth!"

Ps__lm 8:1, N__V



Answer: "LORD, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!"

Psalm 8:1, NIV



The Congregational Church

United Church of Christ

P.O. Box 237, 59 Main Street, East Hampton, CT 06424

Thomas L. Kennedy, Pastor

Church Office (860) 267-4959 ~ Email: cceh@juno.com ~ Website: www.cc-eh.org



C. ESTELLE DICKSON SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

Applicant's Name: _____ Age: _____

Address: _____

Present Status:

School: _____

Employer: _____

Married: Yes ☐ NO ☐

Spouse's Name: _____

Spouse's Employer: _____

Number of Children: _____ Ages: _____

Parents or Guardians Name: _____

Parents or Guardians Employer: _____ (father)
_____ (mother)

Number of Siblings: _____ Ages: _____

How many in the family are attending college?: _____

High School: (Please list your extracurricular activities in school and in the community.)

List any Awards and Honors Received:

What Achievement or Accomplishment has made you proud?

College: (Name of Colleges to which you have been accepted)

What Major, if you have decided, will you pursue?

Financial: (How do you plan to finance your first year?)

Total estimate of first year costs: _____

Less: A) From Family

B) Personal Savings

C) Work during School Year

D) Scholarships/Grants/Aid

E) Work during Vacations

F) Loans

Total Available:

Current Shortfall:

Church: (How have you been involved in our church?)

What has your relationship with our church meant to you?

(Attach an essay of 200 or more words.)