

THE SPIRE

April 2026

We seek to be a Christian community by worshipping God through prayer, music, and the proclaimed Word. Following Christ's example, we enthusiastically reach out to everyone with compassion, respect, and love so that we may grow in faith and commitment together.

Church of Christ, Congregational, UCC

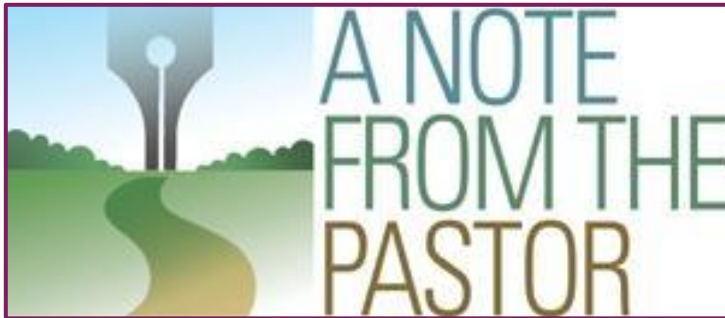
142 Exchange St., Millis, MA 02054

www.millisucc.org • (508) 376-5034 • millisucc@msn.com



An Open and Affirming Congregation

Worship God, Serve our neighbors, Share God's love.



Dear Friends,

As April arrives and the days grow longer, we find ourselves surrounded by signs of new life. The bare branches are finally budding, and the earth is waking up. This natural renewal perfectly sets the stage for our greatest celebration: the resurrection of Jesus Christ.

Easter reminds us that hope always has the final word. The empty tomb proves that light overcomes darkness and life conquers death. When we face our own difficult seasons, we can lean on this promise. Christ's resurrection is an active, living hope that changes how we move through our lives right now.

This month, I invite you to take time to deeply reflect on what the Easter story means for you personally. Let God's grace settle into your heart. Then, let that grace move you into action. We

are called to be an Easter people, carrying the light of God into the world.

Look for small, intentional ways to spread love and kindness in our community. Check in on a neighbor, share a meal, or offer a listening ear to someone who needs it. When we extend compassion to others, we share the very heart of the risen Christ.

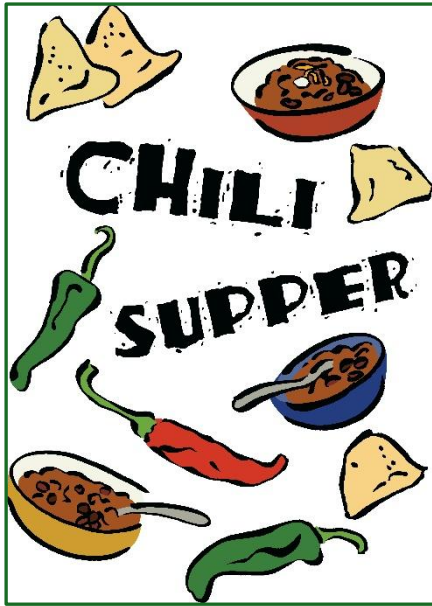
May you and your loved ones experience a joyous and deeply meaningful Easter season.

In Christ's love,
Rev. James



Lace up your sneakers, it's time again for the annual New Life Furniture Bank's fundraiser! **Raceday is Saturday 4-11-26!**

Fun Run for ages 4-10 begins at 9am. Not a runner? No worries! Walkers welcome as well. For registration and details, please visit <https://runsignup.com/Race/MA/Medfield/NewLifeSolesRace>



It's Not Too Late!

Our 2nd Annual Chili Cook Off is scheduled for **THIS Friday, April 10th** from 6:30-8:30pm. Come and enjoy some delicious dinner, and stay for a family friendly movie night.



The Deacons wish you a Happy Spring as we look forward to the next part of the church year. We thank Rev. James for the planning that went into each Lenten sermon, prayer, and Children's story. We hope that you heard words of love, compassion and caring during the Lenten season.

The Deacons will be covering the Sundays when Rev. James is off. We are always looking for ideas for sermons or special projects to cover the summer. Please speak with Artie or Kathy on Sundays with any suggestions.

We pray that Jen Payne will be fully recovered from her injury and back on duty by June.

Blessings to you all.
Kathy & the Diaconate



Now that Jen is home again, recovering from surgery, she and Art could use some help with meals. Nothing with Eggs please, and not too spicy. Art is able to pick up locally if you are meal prepping and can help them out. Please contact either Art or Kathy to coordinate. Let's try to get them at least one night a week that dinner is on us.



Gentle Reminder: *Spire* content is due by the 20th of each month.



Our PRC members have been busy this year establishing our Second Chance Closet. Pastor James, together with Millis Fire Department, identified a need in our community for replacement clothes in the event of fire or other significant household disasters. Donations have been generous and volunteers have been at the ready to sort, fold and hang clothes. If you, or anyone you know of, are in need of “shopping” (clothes are free) at our Second Chance Closet, appointments can be made by calling the office, and monthly open hours will be posted as the schedule evolves. Our April Open Closet hours will be Saturdays, April 11, 18, & 25, 2026 from 10:00am-noon. No proof of hardship or residency required.

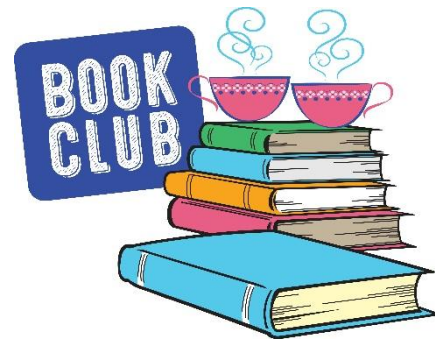


Hold the following dates for some of our upcoming events! All are welcome!

Heavenly Humor

Sunday, April 12th at 10:00am

A church favorite! Holy Humor Sunday with Rev. Mary Perry.



WHERE BOOKS SPARK CONNECTION

Book Club Meeting

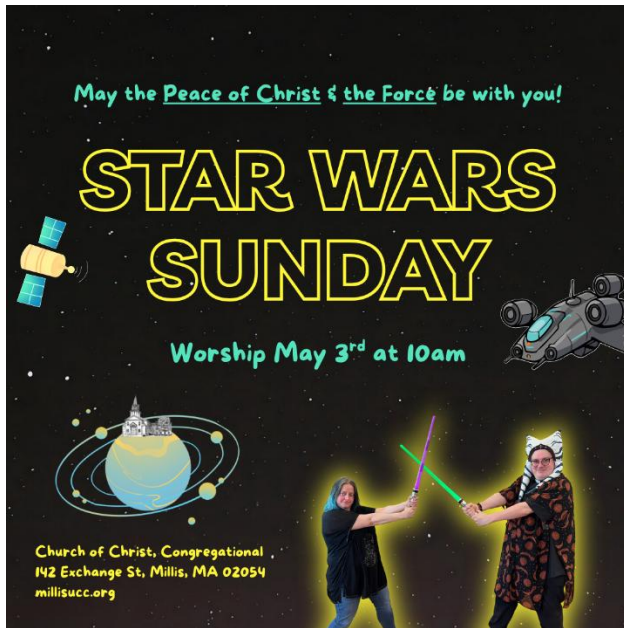
2026 April 26

11:15 AM - 12:30 PM
142 Exchange St Millis, MA

Current Read:
Sermon on the Mount: A Beginner's Guide to the Kingdom of Heaven
by Amy Jill-Levine

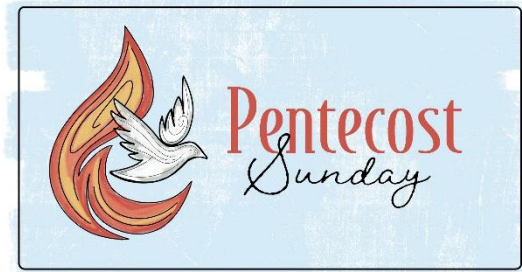
@MILLISUCC





Sunday, May 3rd at 10:00am

Star Wars Sunday! May the Force be with you. Costumes encouraged for this themed Sunday worship.



Sunday, May 24th at 10:00am

Celebrating the Holy Spirit, wear red and get fired up for worship!



The Millis Community Garden is gearing up for the 2026 season! If you are interested in gardening in one of the beds for free, please contact Lauren Briggs or fill out this Google form:

<https://forms.gle/w15Vbn7jUvKBmSZL8>

If you are doing some spring cleaning and have gardening materials, seeds, outdoor furniture, or outdoor planters that you are no longer using and want to donate to the Garden, please contact Lauren Briggs.

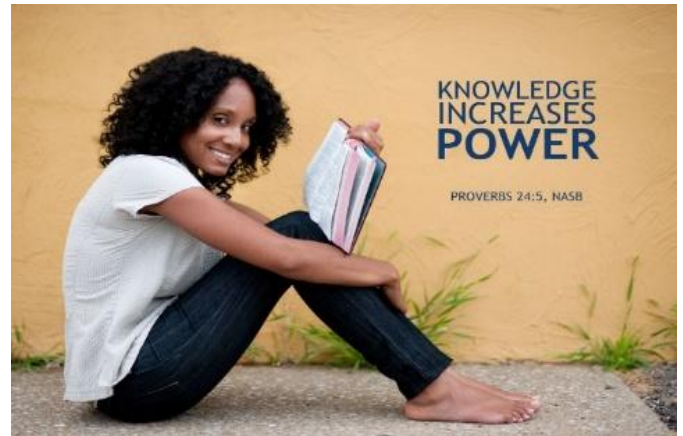


Additionally, if you or someone you know would be interested in hosting

an event in the Garden, such as a presentation or an activity for children, please contact Lauren Briggs. This could be a great opportunity for a small business owner or organization leader to gain exposure for their business or organization.



If you would like to be added to the prayer chain, or if you or someone you know wants to receive prayers for a specific situation, please email the church office at millisucc@msn.com, and we will forward your request on to Mary Jensen.



Understanding PRC

What is PRC and what is its role? The Pastoral Relations Committee (PRC) regularly meets with Rev. James to foster communication between the Pastor and the congregation, and to support our Pastor in their efforts to connect the church with the community. We seek your feedback and ideas for our church, and assure you a safe, confidential welcome for your closely held concerns. We are striving to be 'One Body in Christ'. Please remember, Rev. James truly welcomes your voice. For ideas, questions, or concerns, please contact any member of the PRC committee:

Suzi Sennott, Jo-Ellen Briggs & Maria Melchionda

**Church of Christ
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Phone:
508-376-5034

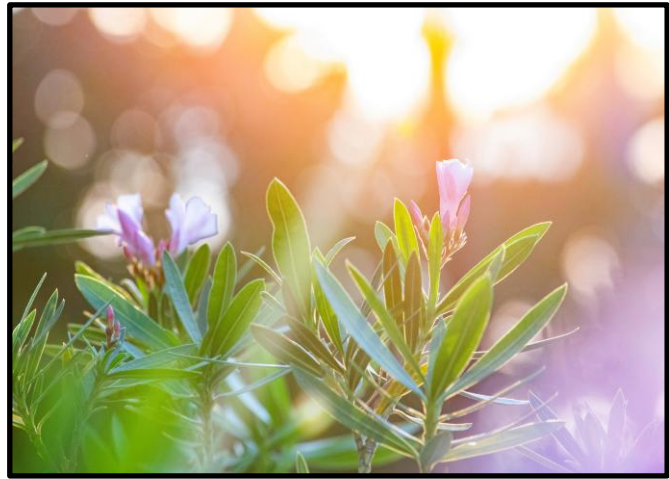
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We're on the Web!

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