



2025

Together in Christ

Contoocook UMC
24-28 Maple St
Contoocook NH

Hillside UMC
82 Center St
Goffstown NH

Jennifer Savoy, Pastor
pastorjensavoy@gmail.com
603 450-0739

Building Christian Community Within and Beyond the Church



Greetings Beloved Brothers and Sisters in Christ!

Once again, we are coming up on Easter. By the time we arrive at that day, we will have gone through the forty days of Lent and journeyed with Christ through Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday and Good Friday. Every year Holy Week finds me thinking about just what it was that Jesus did for us. How can I ever even come close to honoring his sacrifice? I don't think we can even begin to imagine the depth of Jesus' love for us. Walking through the events of Holy Week can give us a bit more understanding of what Jesus went through in the last days of his earthly life. Join us on Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday and Good Friday as we contemplate Jesus' last earthly week.

Grace and Peace,
Pastor Jen

Pastor Jen can be reached at pastorjensavoy@gmail.com or 603 450-0739. If you want to meet in person, she has office hours on Thursdays from 9-2 at CUMC. She is available for meetings by appointment Tues-Friday.

Our beloved Church Family!

Pastor Jen would like to thank everyone for the prayers for her daughter in law and new grandbaby. Annabeth Lee was born on March 24, mama and baby are happy and healthy.

Mission Opportunities!



Noisy offerings at CUMC! The Noisy Offering in April will benefit the Friendly Kitchen in Concord. This mission provides healthy meals to the homeless in Concord every day. Area churches, businesses and other groups take turns cooking and serving the meals. Please bring your change throughout the month of April to help this very important ministry!

Hillside will continue collecting money in our jars to benefit Evone Ministries throughout Lent. If you haven't yet gotten a jar, let Pastor Jen know and she will make sure you get one!

39 BEECH STREET Donations

Help us provide stability to homeless adults who stay at our 40 bed emergency shelter and daytime engagement center where we address housing, behavioral health, and basic needs.



TOP Essentials:

Jackets, new socks, underwear and bras, Coffee, Creamer, sugar, disposable hot cups, Toilet paper

Also needed : Feminine hygiene items, toothbrushes and toothpaste, cough drops, hand sanitizer, plastic utensils and paper or plastic plates and bowls, to go cups, laundry detergent, shampoo and conditioner, deodorant, trash bags, bandaids, trash bags, hand soap

Questions? Jake@eastcoastevolutionleadership.com

Department of Housing Stability:

Adrienne Beloin, Director:
ABeloin@manchesternh.gov

Owen Westover, Project Assistant:
Westover@manchesternh.gov

CHURCH HAPPENINGS!



Palm Sunday: HUMC 9am CUMC 11am
Maundy Thursday: HUMC 5pm CUMC 7pm
Good Friday: HUMC 5pm Cumc 7pm

There is a Steps to Recovery AA (women's meeting) on Tuesdays at 7pm at CUMC. This is an open meeting so all women can attend. They meet downstairs in the vestry.
The AA meets on Sundays at 7pm in the vestry.



Join us as we worship our Lord and Savior, in the sanctuary and in the community!
May God's peace fill you, may God's love surround you and may you be blessed and be a blessing to those around you.

Hillside UMC 82 Center St. Goffstown 9am
Contoocook UMC 24 Maple St. Contoocook 11am

<https://www.youtube.com/@contoocookunitedmethodistc2605/streams>

*if you or anyone you know is unable to attend church in person and would like to receive communion, please contact Pastor Jen at 603 450-0739

IN THE COMMUNITY

RUMMAGE SALE



**Contoocook United
Methodist Church**

24 Maple Street

Saturday April 5

9 AM till Noon

Bag Sale at 11 AM

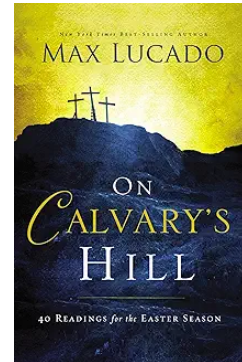


For the learner in each of us!



Each Tuesday, a group of people from Hillside and Contoocook gather on zoom to discuss Bible verses that they have studied over the course of the previous week. Each week's verses have a common theme (humility, leadership, grace, love etc). Please join us and deepen your engagement in God's Holy Word! If you are interested, please talk to Pastor Jen or Tom or Becky Andrew. The link can also be found in the weekly newsletter from CUMC. This link: <https://www.contoocookumc.org/> will take you to the CUMC page, if you click on "Devotions" you will find the daily readings and responses from some of our members. You can also add your own responses and join in the discussion. Looking forward to seeing some new faces on Tuesdays at 7pm!

During Lent, we will be using Max Lucado's On Calvary's Hill Lenten Devotional. We will meet on Tuesdays at 7 via zoom (yes, during Transformers! We are combining the two for Lent) As part of the study, everyone will have access to the online space that the Transformers use each day to reflect on that day's Scripture. In this space you can read the Scripture, Max Lucado's reflection and other participants' reflection as well as post your own reflection. This will be a great way to interact with each other on a daily basis and to come together to discuss the week's devotional messages. Please join us!



If you would like to join the Transformers on Tuesdays during Lent (and beyond!) you can follow this link:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84902041932?pwd=BBn8YXKKBGachu340arvqMLHdAza9on.1>



During Lent we will again be doing Soup and Bread suppers at CUMC on Thursdays at 6. Everyone is welcome, so please come and bring friends!

Influential Figures in Christianity

This month we will look at Justin Martyr. Justice became a Christian around the age of 32 after being raised as a pagan. He studied primarily pagan philosophers but after his conversion to Christianity he worked to convert other educated pagans to Christ. He was ultimately condemned to death and beheaded.

The following is taken from

<https://www.britannica.com/biography/Saint-Justin-Martyr>

“St. Justin Martyr (born c. 100, Flavia Neapolis, Palestine [now Nāblus]—died c. 165, Rome [Italy]; feast day June 1) was one of the most important of the Greek philosopher-Apologists in the early Christian church. His writings represent one of the first positive encounters of Christian revelation with Greek philosophy and laid the basis for a theology of history.

Life

A pagan reared in a Jewish environment, Justin studied Stoic, Platonic, and other pagan philosophies and then became a Christian in 132, possibly at Ephesus, near modern Selçuk, Turkey. Soon after 135 he began wandering from place to place, proclaiming his newfound Christian philosophy in the hope of converting educated pagans to it. He spent a considerable time in Rome. Some years later, after debating with the cynic Crescens, Justin was denounced to the Roman prefect as subversive and condemned to death with six companions. Authentic records of his martyrdom, by beheading, survive.

Works

Of the works bearing Justin's authorship and still deemed genuine are two Apologies and the Dialogue with Trypho. The first, or "Major Apology," was addressed about 150 to the Roman emperors Antoninus Pius and Marcus Aurelius. In the first part of the First Apology, Justin defends his fellow Christians against the charges of atheism and hostility to the Roman state. He then goes on to express the core of his Christian philosophy: the highest aspiration of both Christianity and Platonic philosophy is a transcendent and unchangeable God; consequently, an intellectual articulation of the Christian faith would demonstrate its harmony with reason. Such a convergence is rooted in the relationship between human reason and the divine mind, both identified by the same term, *logos* (Greek: "intellect," "word"), which enables humankind to understand basic truths regarding the world, time, creation, freedom, the human soul's affinity with the divine spirit, and the recognition of good and evil.

Philosophy 101

Justin asserts that Jesus Christ is the incarnation of the entire divine *logos* and thus of these basic truths, whereas only traces of truth were found in the great works of the pagan philosophers. The purpose of Christ's coming into the world was to teach people the truth and save them from the power of demons. In the third part of the First Apology, Justin vividly describes the early Christians' method of celebrating the Eucharist and of administering baptism.

The Dialogue with Trypho is a discussion in which Justin tries to prove the truth of Christianity to a learned Jew named Trypho. Justin attempts to demonstrate that a new covenant has superseded the old covenant of God with the Jewish people; that Jesus is both the messiah announced by the Old Testament prophets and the preexisting logos through whom God revealed himself in the Scriptures; and that the gentiles have been chosen to replace Israel as God's chosen people. In his brief Second Apology Justin argues that the Christians are being unjustly persecuted by Rome.

Legacy

Justin's distinctive contribution to Christian theology is his conception of a divine plan in history, a process of salvation structured by God, wherein the various historical epochs have been integrated into an organic unity directed toward a supernatural end; the Old Testament and Greek philosophy met to form the single stream of Christianity.

Justin's concrete description of the sacramental celebrations of baptism and the Eucharist remain a principal source for the history of the primitive church. Justin serves, moreover, as a crucial witness to the status of the 2nd-century New Testament corpus, mentioning the first three Gospels and quoting and paraphrasing the letters of Paul and 1 Peter; he was the first known writer to quote from the Acts of the Apostles."



Puzzle!

Use the clues to complete words with various vowel arrangements. Then place the circled letters in the correct blanks below to complete an Easter phrase.

- Brave: ○ _____ E O U _____
- A dark profile: _____ ○ O U E _____
- Circular: ○ O U _____
- Running away: _____ E E ○ _____
- Savage, fierce: _____ I O U ○ _____
- Odd or nostalgic: _____ U A I _____
- A person from the 50th state: _____ A ○ I A _____
- Compress, push together: ○ _____ U E E _____
- A large tree in California: ○ _____ U _____ I A _____
- Paddling in a small, narrow boat: _____ ○ O E I _____
- Upright, moral and righteous: ○ _____ U O U _____
- Lining up in a row: _____ U E U ○ _____
- Gorgeous: _____ E A U _____ E ○ U _____
- Precipitation: ○ A I _____



Easter phrase:

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8

_____ !

9 10 11 12 13 14

Answers: 1. courageous, 2. silhouette, 3. round, 4. fleeing, 5. vicious, 6. quaint, 7. Hawaiian, 8. squeeze, 9. sequoia, 10. canoeing, 11. virtuous, 12. queuing, 13. beautiful, 14. rain; Christ is Savior!

PUZZLE

OUR EASTER GIFT

Thanks to Easter, what wonderful gift does God give us?

Directions: Start at the given letter, move one space in the direction each arrow points. Write the last letter in each sequence in the spaces provided. Then write those answers in order on the blanks below to complete 1 Peter 1:3, NIV.

A	B	C	D	E
F	G	H	I	J
K	L	M	N	O
P	Q	R	S	T
U	V	W	X	Y

- C → ↓ ↓ _____
- H → ↑ → _____
- V → ↑ → ↓ _____
- I ← ← ↑ _____
- T ↑ ↑ ↑ _____
- P ↑ → → ↓ _____
- D ↓ → → ↓ _____
- T ↑ → ← → _____

Answer: new birth

Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ!

In his great mercy he has given us

_____ into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.

1 Peter 1:3, NIV



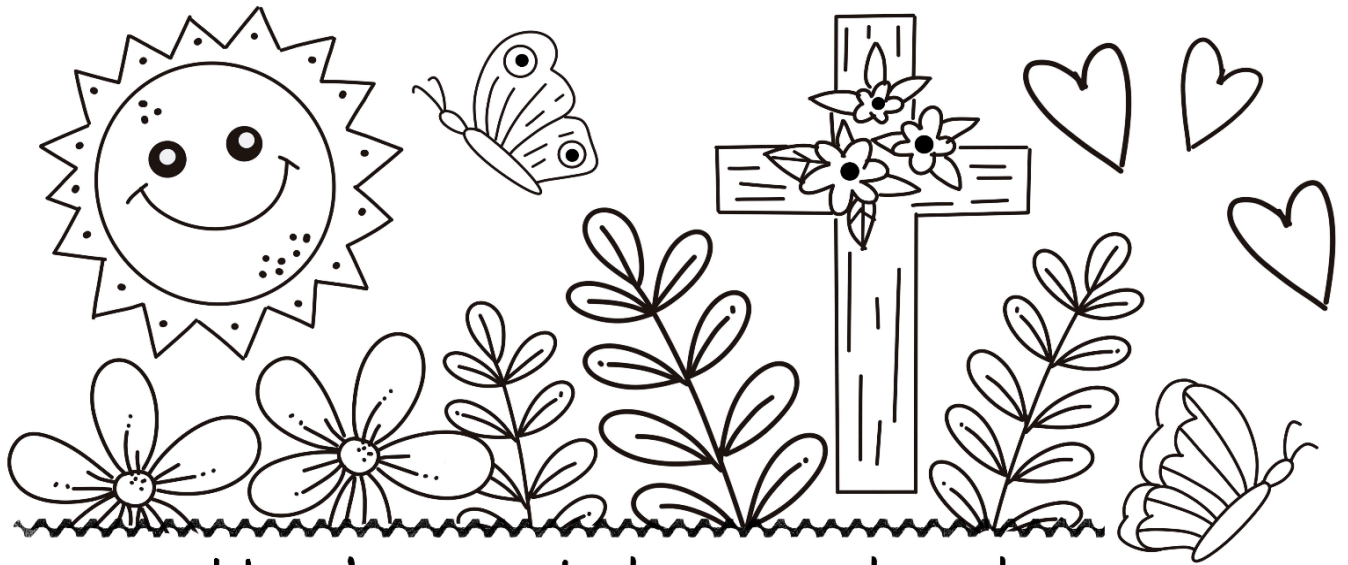
Bible Quiz

From the cross, Jesus prayed words from the book of Psalms. What were they?

- "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?"
- "I thirst!"
- "Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they do."
- "It is finished!"



Answer: A (See Matthew 27:46; Mark 15:34; and Psalm 22:1.)



He is not here; he has



Luke 24:6, NIV

