



We will receive the One Great Hour of Sharing® (OGHS) offering on Sunday, March 30.
This is one of four special mission offerings of the United Church of Christ.
This Lenten Offering supports disaster, refugee, and development ministries
of the United Church of Christ within Love of Neighbor.

Chapel Hills • *Weekly News* • March 27, 2025

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Sunday, March 30, 2025

Worship Service @ 10:15 am

Nursery is available for infants, toddlers, and preschool-age children.

- No Sunday School this week due to Spring Break -

Participating from home? Join us via live stream...

Click Here: <http://youtube.com/channel/UCBYMT5pV5dLXGHjX5iaYXYQ/live>

Contact Information

Rev. Briones can be reached at revcbriones@gmail.com or 952-935-3025.

Christián's emergency line is **612-495-8203**.

In the event of an emergency on a Friday, please call the church (952-935-3025) and leave a voicemail and the message will be passed along to Christián.

He will be in touch as soon as possible.



In Prayer

- Prayers for Harry Lerner as he struggles with health issues.
- Ann Puglisi and family as they mourn a treasured life.
- Michelle Liebl's father is currently receiving hospice care.
- Emily Gray appreciates prayers for a joyful journey through her chemo treatment.
- Dee Chance moved to Martin Luther Manor in Bloomington.
- Jordan Kerr is recovering from multiple/ongoing back surgeries with a long road ahead.
- Allii Scudder is healing from removal of affected lymph nodes, awaiting further tests.
- Patty Sexton who is recovering from cancer surgery.
- Joann's nephew, Russell Hunt Jr, is receiving infusions for leukemia.
- Doug Allen, John Burgart, Julie Ford, Louise Ford, Tom Ford, Joann Hunt, Molly Lee-Lafferty, Annette Ronan, Nolan Sapp, Gail Stalpes, Amanda Trosen, and Traci White-Hobson



Last Day to Order Easter Flowers from Bachman's

(THIS Sunday, March 30th)

Don't forget to order your Easter flowers.
Order forms are available on the table
outside Pastor Christián's office.

Easter Flowers from **Bachman's**

It's time to order your Easter flowers. A great selection to choose from!

	Cost
10" Pansy Bowl	\$14.00
6" Easter Lily (White)	\$10.50
6" Asiatic Lily (Yellow)	\$10.50
6" Asiatic Lily (Orange)	\$10.50
6" Asiatic Lily (Pink)	\$10.50
6" Azalea (Pink)	\$23.00
6" Azalea (White)	\$23.00
6" Azalea (Pink/White Bicolor)	\$23.00
6" Hydrangea (Blue)	\$24.00
6" Hydrangea (Pink)	\$24.00
6" Tulip (Yellow)	\$9.00
6" Tulip (Purple)	\$9.00
6" Tulip (Pink)	\$9.00
6" Tulip (Orange)	\$9.00
6" Mum (Yellow)	\$11.00
6" Mum (White)	\$11.00

It is our tradition that the Easter flowers are displayed for all to enjoy on Easter morning and then taken home after the service.

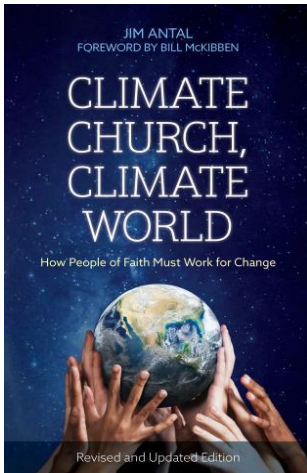
Order forms are available on the table outside Pastor Christián's office.

Please make check payable to Chapel Hills UCC (write Easter Flowers on the memo line)

Order Deadline: Sunday, March 30th

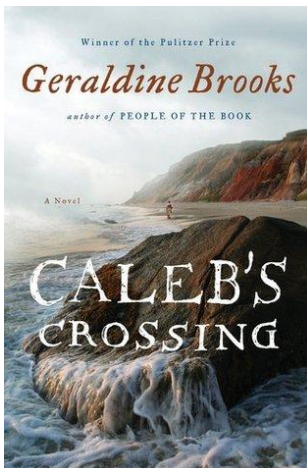
Feed My Starving Children • Hands-On Outreach Event

We've filled our spots for our Saturday, March 29th outreach event at Feed My Starving Children. Thanks to all you will be joining us in Chanhassen (18732 Lake Drive) from 9:30 to 11:15 am. Rides are available by contacting Barb Okonek @ 612-616-4505.



Book Group - Thursday, April 10, 2025

Climate Church, Climate World – Rev. Jim Antal contends that climate change is the greatest moral challenge humanity has ever faced. Hunger, refugees, poverty, inequality, deadly viruses, war—climate change multiplies all forms of global social injustice. After illuminating how human beings are responsible for the dangers our planet now faces, Antal proposes how people of faith can embrace new approaches to worship, preaching, witnessing, and other spiritual practices that honor creation and cultivate hope.



Book Group - Thursday, May 8, 2025

Caleb's Crossing: Upon a slender factual scaffold, **Geraldine Brooks** has created a luminous tale of love and faith, magic and adventure. Bethia Mayfield is a restless and curious young woman growing up in Martha's Vineyard in the 1660s amid a small band of pioneering English Puritans. At age twelve, she meets Caleb, the young son of a chieftain, and the two forge a secret bond that draws each into the alien world of the other. Bethia's father is a Calvinist minister who seeks to convert the native Wampanoag, and Caleb becomes a prize in the contest between old ways and new, eventually becoming the first Native American graduate of Harvard College. Caleb's Crossing brilliantly captures the triumphs and turmoil of two brave, open-hearted spirits who risk everything in a search for knowledge at a time of superstition and ignorance.

Join Us... Collaborative Lenten Meal & Worship Service

Meal - 5:30 pm • Worship Service - 6:30 pm

Date	Hosted By	Location
Thurs, March 27	@ Morningside Hills UCC	4201 Morningside Rd, Edina
Thurs, April 3	@ Chapel Hills UCC	6512 Vernon Ave S, Edina
Thurs, April 10	@ Lynnhurst Congregational UCC	4501 Colfax Ave S, Minneapolis



Palm Sunday Breakfast - Sunday, April 13th

Join us for breakfast – anytime between 8:45 & 10:00 a.m. (egg casserole, baked french toast, fruit and coffee & juice). For planning purposes, please sign-up in the narthex.

April Birthdays

Julie Ford – 5th

Sonny Sherman – 8th

Ashley Sherman – 9th

Joann Hunt – 21st

Ron Molony – 23rd

Ethan Norris-Weber – 27th



Looking Ahead

27	MAR, THU	● 5:30 – 7pm	Lenten Meal & Worship Service - Morningside Hills UCC (Edina)
29	MAR, SAT	● 9:30 – 11:15am	Feed My Starving Children - Chanhassen
30	MAR, SUN	● All day	Receive One Great Hour of Sharing Offering
		● 9:15 – 10:15am	Adult Choir Rehearsal
		● 10:15 – 11:15am	Worship Service
1	APR, TUE	● 11am – 12:30pm	MnCAN Aphasia Group
		● 1 – 2:30pm	MnCAN Aphasia Group
2	APR, WED	● 7:30 – 8:30pm	Adult Choir Rehearsal
3	APR, THU	● 5:30 – 7pm	Lenten Meal & Worship Service - Chapel Hills UCC (Edina)
6	APR, SUN	● 9:15 – 10:15am	Adult Choir Rehearsal
		● 10:15 – 11:15am	Worship Service & Communion
		● 11:15 – 11:45am	Sunday School (for Ages 5 & Older)
8	APR, TUE	● 11am – 12:30pm	MnCAN Aphasia Group
		● 1 – 2:30pm	MnCAN Aphasia Group
		● 6:30 – 8pm	Church Council Meeting



GIVE Securely Online

Offering/Donations

- **Online Giving** (convenient & secure) by clicking the following link...
- <https://app.easytithes.com/app/giving/chapelhillsuccedina> or by scanning the QR Code on the left
- **By Check** (indicate what your donation is for on the memo line) Send to: Chapel Hills, 6512 Vernon Ave S, Edina, MN 55436



"Embracing Love"

Fourth Sunday in Lent

For centuries, renowned artists have captured the varied emotions among the characters in Jesus' parable of the prodigal son, depicting on canvas and in stone the forgiving father, the bitter brother and the repentant prodigal.

If you were to pick up a brush on this the fourth Sunday in Lent, which of the characters would you paint first? Who would it be that you — answer honestly now — relate to the most? The one extending forgiveness or the one bitter because that forgiveness has been extended. Or maybe you are putting on those ancient sandals, trekking back home to make amends?

Don't worry too much about your answer, because over the course of our lives we will find ourselves identifying with each of these characters. There will be times where we are grace-filled, times where we begrudge forgiveness, and times where we are truly sorry for the things we have done.

Famed Dutch artist, Rembrandt, has two versions of the prodigal son in which he painted in his lifetime. The first was done while he was a young man at the height of his fame and domestic bliss. With a loving wife, children and an audience who clamored for his work, Rembrandt had it all. It's not surprising that at this time in his career he depicted himself as the prodigal without a care in the world, a woman seated on his lap, and a drink lifted high in his hand.

Life though changed for the artist. His children and wife died. His wealth was gone, as were his patrons who once commissioned works created by his hands. Rembrandt returned to the prodigal son for one of his last paintings before his death. Only this time, each brushstroke revealed a man who knew all too well what it meant to be broke and broken.

Great artists create from what they know in life. Rembrandt was no exception, capturing in his prodigal son paintings a joy that was fleeting and sorrow that was soul crushing. It would be the latter that would become the artist's most well-known painting.

And in the end, Rembrandt found himself running home into the loving arms of God. He died on Oct. 4, 1669, and was buried with no family and no fanfare in a grave set aside for paupers that was owned by the church.

We will all someday find ourselves running into the arms of a loving and forgiving God, who will welcome his prodigal children — always. But for now, how do we get better at extending this holy and healing forgiveness to others? How do we not become bitter? How do we find the strength to make the amends we must make? How would a great artist paint us right now in such a story of grace?

Praises to You, O God, who never turns Your back on us — no matter how far from home we have ventured. Embrace us now with Your love and may that love soften our hearts to the point where we our arms begin to open wider to all Your children who are lost and lonely. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.