

Congregational Church of South Hero, U.C.C.  
P O Box 99 24 South St.  
South Hero, VT 05486  
Office hours: Mon-Fri. 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.  
(802)372-4962 [ccshvt@gmail.com](mailto:ccshvt@gmail.com)

Pastor: Rev. Dr. Michael Galica  
cell **801-209-6880**  
[mike@galica.us](mailto:mike@galica.us)  
[sherochurch.org](http://sherochurch.org)  
<http://www.facebook.com/CCSHVT>

## **E News for April 22, 2026** **No Sunday School this week April 26<sup>th</sup>**

### **From Pastor Mike: Ezekiel 34:7-15, John 10:1-10**

This week, God challenges those who have been failing to shepherd God's people well and says, "I will be their shepherd." As Christians, we understand part of this statement's fulfillment in Jesus, the Good Shepherd. How might we have failed to be shepherds to the people whom God has placed in our care? How is God calling us to rightly care for them?

The bulletin for each week is now on our webpage [www.sherochurch.org](http://www.sherochurch.org)

You can stream Sunday Worship live. <https://tinyurl.com/CCSHLive>

### **Fourth Sunday of Easter April 26, 2026**

**Scriptures Ezekiel 24: 7-15; Psalm 100; 1 Peter 2: 19-25; John 10: 1-10**

*(Mark Kennedy, liturgist)*

**Hymns:** NCH # 242 "The Strife is O'er"  
NCH # 479 "God is My Shepherd"  
NCH # 7 "All the People That on Earth Do Dwell"

### **Installation Service at 2pm**

**Scriptures: Isaiah 42: 5-9; Luke 1: 46b-55; 1 John 2: 5b, 12-17; John 21: 15-19**

*(Linda Lake, liturgist)*

**Hymns:** NCH # 24 "The God of Abraham Praise"  
NCH # 355 "God the Spirit, Guide and Guardian"  
NCH # 17 v 1, 6 "To You, O God, All Creatures Sing"  
W&R # 68 "Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing"  
NCH # 451 v 4 "Be Thou My Vision"

*You can search online for hymn lyrics fairly easily,  
New Century Hymnal (NCH) & Worship & Rejoice Hymnal (W R)*



## **It's This Sunday! 2pm Service of Installation**

Mike Galica will be formally installed as pastor of CCSH.

*You are invited along with members of the VT UCC Conference, and the Champlain Association, to support Mike*

### **Reception immediately following.**

Offertories received at the service will be shared by local mission work of CCSH and with the Champlain Association.



Join us Sunday after worship for coffee and refreshments.  
 The Board of Christian Ed is responsible for the month of April.  
 This week Kelsey Dickson is hosting.

**LECTIONARY GROUP** is a small gathering on zoom to discuss the biblical passages that will be covered the following Sunday.

**Tuesday nights from 7-8pm** email Elise Whittemore at [ewhittem@gmail.com](mailto:ewhittem@gmail.com)

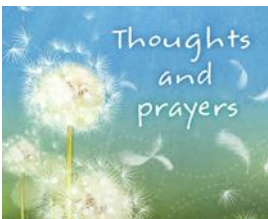
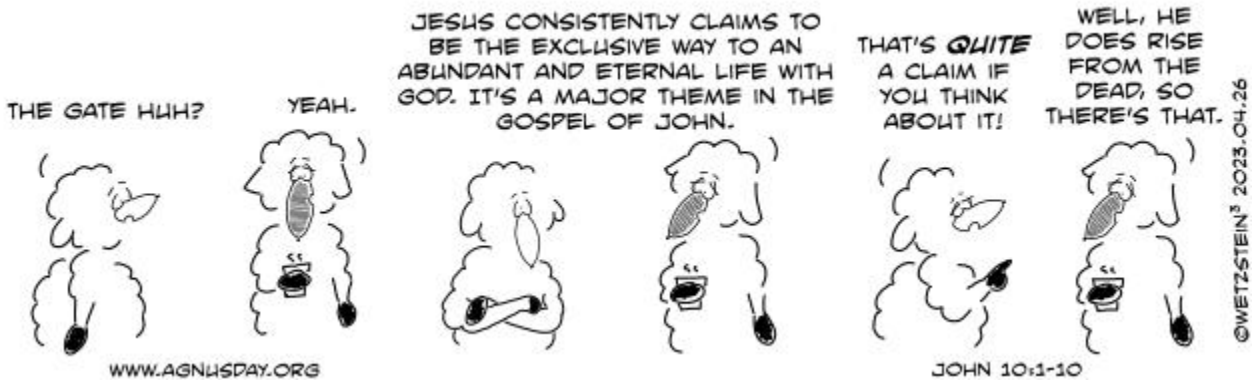


**LITURGIST READER VOLUNTEER**

Want to add your voice to worship? We're always looking for people, young and not so young, to serve as liturgists.

Basically, a liturgist assists the minister by guiding the congregation through the parts of worship, reading the Call to Worship, prayers and Scripture passages.

It's easy to do. Everything is written down for you and emailed to you ahead of your Sunday. A sign-up sheet will be on the table in fellowship hall near the nametag drop off. Leave your name/contact info and even check off a Sunday if you have a preference.



Prayer makes a difference in the lives of others and it unites us when we pray together.

We lift up the needs of our community, whether asking for improved health, comfort in grief, or joy in sharing a special event.

- For Cathy Rude who tripped and broke her kneecap **OUCH!**
- For Skip Brown whose dad died last weekend.
- For Char Kennedy who will be having tests next week.
- For Mike on his installation as our Pastor.

If you, or someone you know, should be added to our prayer list, **please let Margaret know.** It can be health related, a birthday or anniversary, a job search, happy, sad or whatever. We all need prayers and often won't ask.



**From Our Boards** *Reminder: anyone may attend a board meeting. If you wish to talk about something pertinent to that board, contact the board chair to be put on the agenda. Your concerns are **always** important..*

**PASTORS RELATION COMMITTEE**

**Members:** Emily Lee, Aimee Cochran, Bill Vitale, Tim Bryan

**Board of DEACONS**

**Members:** Aimee Cochran, Gretchen Patterson, Sharon Arthur, Barb Smith, Rob Althoff, Cathy Rude

**Board of TRUSTEES**

**Members:** Dolf Wirsing, Doug Patterson, Carol Tremble, Luke Tremble, Josie Leavitt, Tim Bryan  
**Restoration will begin soon on the front steps.**

**Board of CHRISTIAN EDUCATION**

**Members:** Carrie Bryan, Kelsey Dickson, Michelle Galica, Nathan Lee (youth)  
**No Sunday school on April 26 (school break) and May 10 (Mother's Day).**

**Summer Camp Funds are available through the Jacoby Family Fund.**

Applications are in the narthex, in fellowship hall, or email

**Board of MISSIONS:**

**Members:** Barbara Purinton, Art Huse, Megan Kouns, Elise Whittemore, Cyndi Reynolds, Kaight Althoff  
*"In seeking to follow Christ's call, we strive to serve, facilitate and generate opportunities for Church outreach while allocating Church resources for the direct and tangible benefit of our local Grand Isle Community."*



We have designated the **back shelf in the hall, cupboard area**, to be the drop site for items needed for the **Welcome Mission Project** assisting unhoused families in Franklin and Grand Isle Counties moving into residences. This project is in association with the St. Albans Congregational Church and other churches  
*Please leave that area for this Mission Project. If you have items that need a home,*

*ask or find a different place to leave them. Thanks!*

**To refresh what is needed: Our goal is to supply 4-6 complete baskets monthly with:**

- laundry basket(new)
- laundry detergent (unscented & sensitive skin)
- clothes hangers (new)
- Shower curtain liner
- curtain rings
- toilet brush set

**NOTE:** We need shower curtain liners for April. For May we need to collect 4 complete sets again.

**Wally's Basket** non-perishable donations that we deliver to the food shelf in Grand Isle each week.

**April: Coffee, Granola Bars, canned fruit**

**May: Canned Stews, Chunky Soups, Chili**

We continue to need gift cards to Hannaford's and Keeler Bay Store, gas gift cards (Mobil and Citgo).  
*Thank you for sharing what you are able to.*



**??We are past freezing temperatures - the Little Pantry is accepting all donations of nonperishable foods and toiletries. (not expired)**



From Mark Kennedy-

## Mark Your Calendars!

(Photo from 2022 concert held outside)

The Vermont based world music teen ensemble, and adult leaders returns to the Islands.

### Summer Concert at CCSH on July 5<sup>th</sup> at 4pm.

Host families needed for six (6) more people.

**POTLUCK FOOD WILL BE NEEDED-** for the supper following the concert on Sunday and for the breakfast on Monday morning at 8:30 am. There are 25 participants to feed. There will be concertgoers and host families who will likely stay for the meal. Your food donations are appreciated whether you stay for the meal or not.

Past concerts have been fun, uplifting, spirited and a good all-around family activity. Share this with your friends and neighbors. Contact Mark Kennedy [maylskenn@yahoo.com](mailto:maylskenn@yahoo.com) or 802-318-0916



### First Earth Day April 22, 1970 Ever wonder how Earth Day began?

Activist John McConnell and Sen. Gaylord Nelson separately asked Americans to join in grassroots demonstrations Dealing with dangerously serious issues concerning toxic drinking water, air pollution, and the effects of pesticides, an impressive 20 million

Americans ventured outdoors and protested together. President Richard Nixon led the nation in creating the Environmental Protection Agency, which was followed with successful laws, including the Clean Air Act, the Clean Water Act, and the Endangered Species Act.

*Both the US Congress and the US EPA are working to roll back and remove regulations to protect our world from pollution by restricting both the Clean Air and Clear Water Acts. As individuals we can raise our voices; stay informed; contact our representatives and senators.*

### Ways to Celebrate Earth Day

- **Support Our Pollinators!** Bring native bees and other pollinating creatures to your garden.
- **Plant a Tree! Use Wildflowers and Native Plants** to attract native and beneficial insects that improve both pest control and bring in pollinators as well as birds!
- **Stop Using Chemicals in the Garden!**
- **Conserve Water!** Harvest rainwater with a rain barrel. In low-lying areas plant a rain garden,
- **Eat more plants, less meat** to reduce your carbon footprint and to improve your overall health. *(Try meatless Mondays or cut your serving size of meat in half and double your vegetable portion.)*
- **Compost or reuse food scraps** *(freeze vegetable peelings, meat bones, for soup stocks).*
- **Avoid single-use containers and bags, styrofoam and excess packaging.**



Thanks for reading

It was great to hear from Anne!

**Anne (Peachy) Besterman** “Many thanks for letting all my friends at CCSH know that this was a scam...I am so sorry. I have been working with my computer tech in our community and we’re slowly getting it solved.... A real pain - and it makes me feel so violated. I love receiving the CCSH news each week! “



Scams and fraud cost Vermonters millions of dollars every year. Scammers use every tool available to steal money and information from consumers. Since most scams originate overseas and use sophisticated technology (*and show as an 802 phone number or another U.S. #*) they can’t be stopped with traditional law enforcement means.

Be wary of urgent demands for payment via gift cards, wire transfers, or cryptocurrency. Verify identities independently and **never** share personal information

### Scams to Avoid

- **Impostor Scams:** Scammers claim to be from known agencies threatening arrest or demanding immediate payment for fake fines. IRS, Social Security, EZ Pass accounts, parking fines, invoices for services not ordered/received and more.
- **Phishing & Tech Support Scams:** Emails, texts, or pop-ups urging you to click links or call, claiming your account is compromised or computer has a virus.
- **Emergency/Grandparent Scam:** Scammers pretend to be a relative in urgent legal or medical trouble requiring immediate, financial help- usually through gift cards.
- **Overpayment/Accidental Deposit Scams:** A scammer "accidentally" sends funds via app (Zelle/Venmo), then asks you to send the money back.

### Key Warning Signs & Protection Tips

- **Act Fast:** Scammers create artificial pressure to stop you from thinking.
- **Payment Method:** Gift cards, crypto, and wire transfers are red flags.
- **Verify Independently:** If a company or agent calls, hang up. Call the official number on their website. If friend or family, call the phone number you have for them.
- **AI/Deepfakes:** Be aware that voice and video can be cloned to mimic loved ones.

To stop scams we need to work together to protect from losses to scams and fraud. If you have fallen victim to a scam, report it.

<https://ago.vermont.gov/cap/scam-prevention-through-awareness-and-education>

the FTC at [IdentityTheft.gov](https://www.ftc.gov/identity-theft) or the FBI at [tips.fbi.gov](https://www.fbi.gov/tips).



**PAUSE** Take a moment to research the request before taking action.

**VERIFY** Scammers often impersonate people you know. Hang up and call that person. Have a code word for family and friends to verify.

**REPORT** Block and report any scam activity.