

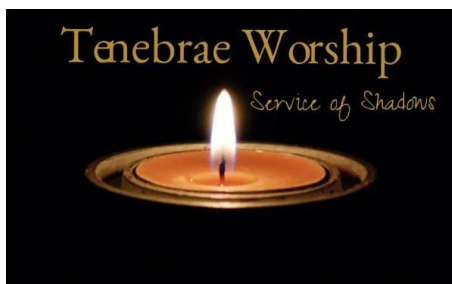
E-Tidings

avon-church.org

Avon Congregational Church

April 1, 2026

Worship and Hospitality Volunteers for Easter Sunday, April 5: Communion Elements – Susan Elliott, Reader – Sally Albrecht, Ushers – Dick and Sandy Lytle, Trustee – Kent May, Videographer - Nora Howard, Communion volunteers – Sue and Dave Crowther, Coffee Hour – Beth Ferrari, Lynn DelCegno, Kathy Hine



Maundy Thursday Service of Tenebrae, April 2, 7:30 PM -

"Tenebrae" is the name given to the celebration, with special ceremonies for the last three days of Holy Week. Thirteen candles (representing the twelve disciples and Christ) are lit. The traditions regarding this service go back at least to the ninth century. This year at Avon Congregational Church, we will listen to scripture readings covering The Last Supper and

Passion Narratives of Christ. The Passion story relays Jesus' agony and arrest in Gethsemane and concludes with his burial. Interspersed between the readings are reflective hymns and anthems. Candles are snuffed as we near the dark moment of Christ's death. This meaningful service is meant to center us for further understanding about the life and commitment of Jesus as he lives and dies in God's ways.



Good Friday, a brief service of solemn reflection April 3rd, noon

Why is it called Good Friday? Some sources suggest that the day is "good" in that it is holy, or that the phrase is a corruption of "God's Friday". Perhaps "good" in this context refers to a day or season observed as holy by the church. Either way, as Christians, we should certainly set aside time to reflect on what Jesus' death means to us and to consider what he valued enough to give up his own life.

Special Easter Offering for 2026 Each Easter our church dedicates the full amount of our special offering to an organization that seeks to respond to a variety of needs, primarily in our region. Our recipient this year is the Prudence Crandall Center in New Britain. For over fifty years the

Center has been dedicated to helping individuals achieve lives free of domestic violence by providing care, advocacy, support and education. Through all of their programs and services they touch the lives of over 10,000 adults and children. each year. You may place your gifts in the marked envelopes provided in your Easter bulletin or mail your donation to the church with "Easter Offering" marked on the memo line.

Easter Sunday Service, April 5, 10:00 AM

"Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here, but has risen!" We celebrate God's triumph of love over death through majestic music with brass and a hope-filled message extolling how we too can find new life in Christ's Way.



The Amazing Annual Egg-Gathering Event, following Easter worship service - Calling all children! Bring a basket (or you can use one of ours) and get ready to search the Memorial Garden for colored eggs filled with surprises. Will this be the year you find the Golden Egg with a special prize?? If weather demands, we'll hold the event in the Sanctuary.

All Creatures Great and Small, Saturday April 18th 11:30 AM

Avon's Animal Control Officer, Angela Grano will speak about her role in our community as helper and protector of both domestic animals and the wildlife. Held in the Fellowship Hall of Avon Congregational Church. Donations for the Avon Pet Food Pantry are welcome. Please note this is not a pet adoption event nor will animals be present.

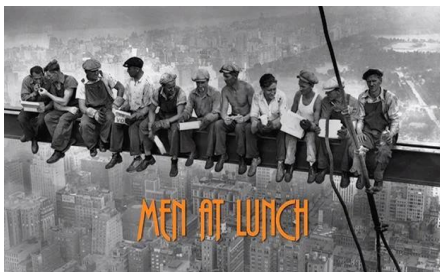


Silver Lake Summer Camp for Youth Registering NOW

Did you know that the United Church of Christ has a beautiful summer camp with more than 60 acres of wooded land on lakeside shores in the western hills of Connecticut? Go to www.SilverLakeCT.org to check out all the options for youth in grades 4-12 (a poster is on our bulletin boards too). Silver Lake is a place for everyone to experience nature, make new friends, and explore faith. Church members are offered scholarships for their children. See Pastor Chris for more details on this.

An Intergenerational Mission Trip Opportunity for August

This is a meaningful multi-generational opportunity open to individuals and families (ages 13 and up). Last summer, 33 people from our Association [went](#) on a very meaningful mission trip to Farmington, Maine to work with <https://missionattheeastward.org/> (MATE). They stayed at the Farmington Conference Center ([Farmington Conference Center](#)). The cost last year was appx \$300. This year it will most likely be less AND our church has scholarships to help defray costs. We are happy to announce that we are returning for another mission trip to the same location this coming summer. August 1-6, 2026. Spread the word for people who may be interested in joining us. We are having two informational meetings (with free dinner!) on **April 19, 4 pm** in Palmer Hall at First Church Simsbury located at 689 Hopmeadow Street, Simsbury. Have questions? Contact Pastor Chris at pastor@avon-church.org.



Men's Lunch, April 25th at Amici's Grill, Avon, 11:30 am Calling all men! Members and friends of the church are offered an opportunity to meet in an informal setting and get to know one another better. Turnout has been great for the past few years and it's become sort of a fun tradition. Any questions can be directed to organizer, Dave Robbins at 203-521-7539.

First Friday Dinner, May 1 at 5:30 – 7:00 PM. Join us for 'Sunday Meatloaf,' made with beef and pork meatloaf mix with shallots, herbs and spices. Served with Creamy Whipped Potatoes with butter, Tender herbed Green Beans, Tossed Salad with homemade champagne vinaigrette, Fresh-baked Rolls & our Dessert Buffet which includes coffee and tea to complete your dining experience. **Cost is \$20 per person.** Take-out is available. For more information, call the church office at 860-678-0488 or email us at office@avon-church.org. No reservations necessary.



New Member Orientation, Sunday, May 3rd, following worship - Does God call you to share your gifts in ways that will provide you with deep meaning? Do you seek lifelong friendships here with us? A New Member Orientation Lunch will be held on Sunday, May 3rd, following the worship service. If you haven't already spoken to Pastor Chris, and you have discerned that God is calling you to be a new member here, please call 860-678-0488, ext. 11.

New Member Sunday, May 17th during worship - **This is the day when the congregation recognizes your choice** to join our journey of faith. Please reach out to Pastor Chris if you would like a conversation or have questions regarding your interest in becoming a new member of Avon Congregational Church. Indeed, God has a plan for you!



Church Member's Art & Crafts Show, May 17th at Coffee Hour

Show your creative side. Are you a photographer, painter, illustrator, quilt maker or do you dabble in some other fine art? Amateur or pro - share your art and let us behold. Bring items and some descriptive notes about your artwork that we'll set up on tables for our May 17th Coffee Hour. Any questions? Contact organizer Dave Robbins at Davidrobbins62@comcast.net

Statement of Inclusion

In keeping with the life and teaching of Christ Jesus, we joyfully and unconditionally welcome all people of any age, gender, sexual orientation, race, culture, ability or social or economic status into our community of faith. We affirm the humanity of all people as unique individuals made in God's image. We also affirm the special gifts that each person has to offer. We invite all to participate in the full life of the church and covenant of our Christian community.

Staff Contact List – Online Church Information

Rev. Chris Solimene, Pastor

Karen Levan, Dir. of Music Ministries/Organist

Jolene Tefoe, Dir. of Avon Nursery School

Diane Parker, Office Manager

John Carlson, Finance Administrator

Lenny Lebatique, Sexton

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Church Address: 6 West Main Street, Avon, CT 06001

Church Phone Number 860-678-0488

Church Website www.avon-church.org

Church Wi-Fi: avonchurch

Steering Circle 2025 – 2026

Moderator – Jerry Humble; Treasurer – Bob Linderman; Clerk – Candace Doersch;

Worship – Alex Harris and Kent May; Nurturing – Lee Egan and Joan Miller;

Outreach – Marcia Cox and Leslie Desmangles; Support – Beth Ferrari and Betsy

Van Loon; Members – at - Large – Kate Allen and Kate Rickson - McNally