



## The Congregational Church of Topsfield InSpire Weekly News & Updates

February 13, 2025 / Issue 214

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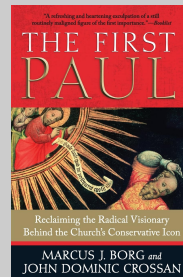
Visit our website



**Sunday Morning**  
Join us for  
worship online  
and in person.

View the

Zoom link for the Sunday Service [here](#) and Sunday's bulletin [here](#).



### *The First Paul: Reclaiming the Radical Visionary Behind the Church's Conservative Icon*

by Marcus J. Borg and John Dominic Crossan

For our next Adult Education offering we will meet in person after our Sunday worship service in the Parlor of the Emerson Center. The book focuses on the apostle Paul. The following outline and proposed schedule for our study provides an appetizer. Please order your own copy of the book.



### Lent and Easter Calendar

**Ash Wednesday:**  
Wednesday, March 5th  
6:30pm in the Emerson Center Chapel

**Palm Sunday and Confirmation of  
Everett Miller and James Love Jr.:**  
Sunday, April 13th  
9:30am in the Meetinghouse

**Maundy Thursday Service:**  
Thursday, April 17th  
7:00pm in the Meetinghouse

**Easter Sunday–Sunrise Service:**  
Sunday, April 20th  
6:00am Sunrise Service at:  
Ipswich River Wildlife Sanctuary  
(87 Perkins Row, Topsfield)

**Easter Service:**  
Sunday, April 20th  
9:30am in the Meetinghouse  
**Easter Egg Hunt After Service:**  
Emerson Center South Lawn  
All children and youth invited!



### **Sunday School Schedule** **Sunday, February 16** (TBD–Weather permitting)

**(Pre–K–6th Grade)**  
Meet with Ms. Julie in the Emerson  
Center Orange Sunday School Room.

Children will attend the Sunday service  
at 9:30am with their families and an  
announcement will be made to meet  
in the narthex (lobby).

All visitors are welcome to attend!

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### **Scheduling of studies following worship services:**

2/16  
Chapter 1: Paul: Appealing or  
Appalling?

2/23  
Chapter 2: How to Read a Pauline  
Letter

3/2  
Chapter 3: The Life of a Long–  
Distance Apostle

3/9 (1<sup>st</sup> Lent)  
Chapter 4: “Jesus is Lord”

3/16 (2<sup>nd</sup> Lent)  
Chapter 5: “Christ Crucified”  
(IG Family Service)

3/23 (3<sup>rd</sup> Lent)  
Chapter 6: “Justification by Grace  
through Faith”

3/30 (4<sup>th</sup> Lent)  
Chapter 7: “Life Together “in Christ”

4/6 (5<sup>th</sup> Lent)  
Epilogue: The Death of an Apostle

Please let Jim Barnes or Martin know if  
you want to participate and order your  
own copy of the book. If you have any  
questions, difficulty ordering it, or  
cannot afford it, please let Martin  
know.

Board of Deacons and Martin

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## Coffee Fellowship

February 16: No CF due to holiday weekend

February 23: Meg Moran and Cathy Imboden hosting

March 2: Host needed

March 9: Host needed

(Email Nancy Nelson to sign up:

[nbnelson21@gmail.com](mailto:nbnelson21@gmail.com)

or sign up using the Coffee Fellowship link:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0A45A4AE28ABFFCF8-54510847-coffee#/>

Thank you!



### Coffee Fellowship Sign Ups Take on a New Look!

As promised, the Board of Community and Communications will be rolling out a new and improved method to allow for easy sign ups for coffee hour. As we continue to try and build community, we appreciate everyone's help in chipping in to make coffee hour a meaningful time of connection for us all.

Beginning with sign ups for February 9th, we will be using *Sign Up Genius*. To access the sign up sheet, please use the following link:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0A45A4AE28ABFFCF8-54510847-coffee#/>

As you can read in the description on the web page, you can sign up to host coffee/tea, snacks or both. Everyone is encouraged to sign up with a friend to make the load a bit easier. Please be specific in the comments of what you will bring for food. If you sign up, it's important to stay for clean



### Volunteer Chaperones Needed!

If you are interested in being a volunteer chaperone for the 7th Grade dance on February 28th, please email

Kim Love at:

[kimlove@topsfieldchurch.org](mailto:kimlove@topsfieldchurch.org)

Thank you!



Mark Your Calendars...  
Our Next Intergenerational  
Family Service Will Be On March  
16th!

(Stay tuned for more information.)



CCT Masking Policy

up. Members of the Board of Community and Communications will be happy to offer individualized and/or group tutorials on the coffee maker, set up and clean up, including operating the dishwasher!

**Please also note that there will be no coffee hour offered on select Sundays falling on holiday weekends.** For example, there will be no coffee hour on February 16th leading up to President's Day.

Please consider signing up for a slot or two so that coffee hour and fellowship can continue!

Many thanks,

Members of the Board of Community and Communications

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This photo of women from our church, was provided by Kristine Murphy, Volunteer Program Manager at Community Giving Tree, along with the following words.

**“Thank you so much for all your help and support in our Boxford Giving Center last week! From socks to sorting, you were a great, flexible group, and we were able to accomplish so much to keep our Giving Center organized and stocked. I truly appreciate your willingness to roll up your sleeves and lend a hand.”**

## Preserving the Health of the Congregation During Worship

Masking at worship remains voluntary. Worshipers are always welcome to wear a mask.

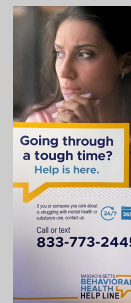
Careful hand washing or use of hand sanitizers is effective in preventing the spread of and acquisition of disease.

Please do not come to in-person worship if you are feeling ill. Instead, watch the service on Zoom or Boxford Community TV.

Keep your vaccinations against respiratory pathogens current.

Sincerely,  
The Board of Deacons

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## The Massachusetts Behavioral Health Help Line

Learn more [here](#)

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**Parish Care Ministry**  
View the Prayer Listing [page](#) and February birthday [page](#)

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**SNEUCC–**  
Southern New England  
Conference–UCC [page](#)

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**UCC**  
Newsletter  
[page](#)

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We Love Because He First  
Loved Us

1 John 4:19



FAITH + BLOG

The Congregational Church of Topsfield | 9 East Common Street | Topsfield, MA 01983 US

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