



Faith. Family. Fellowship. Music.  
Congers United Methodist Church

86 Congers Road, Congers, NY 10920  
(845) 268-2186 \* [www.congersumc.org](http://www.congersumc.org)  
*Bishop Alfred Johnson, Pastor*

**Sunday Worship**  
**April 12, 2026 at 10:00 a.m.**  
**Second Sunday of Easter**  
**Celebration of Holy Communion**



**Bold** responses read in unison

\*Stand in Body or spirit if possible

**PRELUDE**

**ENTRANCE**

Jim West

**WELCOME**

Frances Reid

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP**

Easter people, Christ is risen!

**Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

Christ is risen indeed! Yet we, like Thomas, may find questions bubbling up: How do we know? What's the proof? Is Resurrection real?

**Within our questioning, Christ appears.**

We may find ourselves like the other disciples, witnesses of Christ's resurrection who struggle to understand the doubt of others.

**Within our certainty, Christ appears.**

Whether you come to worship full of certainty or doubt, you are welcome here, for we are all participants in the story of God's salvific work in the world, a story still unfolding all around us.

**We gather to worship, believing that in certainty and doubt, the resurrected Christ dwells among us! Amen.**

Written by Dr. Lisa Hancock, Discipleship Ministries, September 2025.

**\*PROCESSIONAL HYMN**

*"He Rose"*

UMH #316, vs. 1st & last

**OPENING PRAYER**

God of the risen Jesus, we praise you for the great love that you have shown to redeem us by sending your Son, Jesus. Help us today to embrace the New Life that the resurrected Christ is giving us. A Life beyond our doubts, faith over fear, courage over confusion, belief over disbelief, and trust to follow your guidance. As we worship today, help us to feel the presence of resurrected Jesus in our midst, reminding us of your love and our purpose. Amen.

Written by Rev. Vinod Wesley and posted on the Worship Ways (United Church of Christ) website at <https://www.ucc.org/worship-way/easter-2a-april-16/>.

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

God's mercy is deeper than the depths of the sea, and God's grace is wider than the whole of the earth. Trusting in that mercy and that grace, let us make our confession, before God and each other, first in silent prayer.

Holy God, we open our hearts to you this day, and offer the truth of our lives:

The fear that stifles us,

The prejudice that impedes us,

The ignorance that hinders us,

The doubt that plagues us.

Help us, we pray, that we will

Find courage in unlikely places,

Move to those places where love is needed,

And have faith that you are with us.

This we pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

Hear the Good News: we are forgiven! We are set free to go out into the world and be the loving, gracious, hopeful people of God! Alleluia! Amen.

Adapted from Beth Merrill Neel on her blog, 'Hold Fast to What Is Good.' Used with permission.

(continued on the next page)

**SILENT MEDITATION**

**THE LORD’S PRAYER**

**PRAYER REPONSE**

**ASSURANCE OF GRACE, FORGIVENESS AND HEALING**

\*Offer each other the gift of forgiveness: **“In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.”**

**WELCOMING FIRST OR SECOND TIME WORSHIPPERS AND SPECIAL GUESTS**

**PROCLAMATION**

\***SONG OF PREPARATION**     *“Come, O Holy Spirit, Come (Wa Wa Wa Emimimo)”*   TFWS #2124

\***SCRIPTURE LESSON**                 John 20:19-31         Shakia Bullock and Khariye Hayes Bullock

**MESSAGE**

**Resurrection Series: “He Lives!”**  
*“He Lives... in Plain Sight ”*

**Bishop J**

**RESPONSE**

**INVITATION TO CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP**

**PRAYERS OF COMPASSION/ PASTORAL PRAYER**

You are invited to lift names for prayers of celebration or concern;  
respond with “Thanks be to God/ Lord, in your mercy hear our prayers”

**PRESENTATION OF TITHES, GIFTS AND OFFERINGS**

Special Compassion Offering  
140<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Offering  
*People to People* Food offering



Congers UMC now has online giving with Givelify:  
go to <https://www.givelify.com> designate Congers UMC.

Or, use our QR code by pointing the camera on your cell phone to this image:

**CELEBRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION**

*Word and Table III. p. 15, UMH*

**SENDING**

\***SENDING SONG**

*“He Lives”*

UMH #310

**BENEDICTION**

May God bless you with open hearts to recognize the resurrected Christ in our midst and with the courage to reach out and touch the wounds of our neighbors, believing that we will find Resurrection in the meeting of our vulnerability.

Written by Dr. Lisa Hancock, Discipleship Ministries, September 2025.

\***DISMISSAL WITH TABLE BLESSINGS**

**POSTLUDE**

# Thank you Today's Worship Team:

Worship Leader: Frances Reid

Music: Jim West



Luke Jaeger (4/17)  
Patricia Williams (4/25)

**Welcome to Congers UMC.** We are happy to have you with us. Join us for a time of food and fellowship after worship service in the fellowship hall.

If this is your first or second time with us, please fill in your name, email address, and/or cell number in the **"CongersUMC Connect Card"** in the back of the pew in front of you. Kindly place it in the offering plates or give it to any member. You may also access this form digitally with our "Connect" QR code. We hope to see you again.



\*Please be aware that we use **Facebook Live for our worship services.** If you are uncomfortable being screened or having pictures taken of yourself or family members, please let our Communications Team (Cheery Villaseñor or Bishop J know).

## Today

We worship the **2nd Sunday of the Easter Season**, celebrating the Day of Resurrection. This season is a 50-day celebration from Easter Sunday to Pentecost, Sunday May 24, 2026, focusing on Christ's resurrection, the gift of the Holy Spirit, and the renewal of Christian life. Bishop J will preach a sermon series entitled: *"He Lives..."*

**Today, 12:30pm, Dr. Stacey May** will receive an *Elevation Ordination* at the Riverside Church, Manhattan, by her Harlem church community, *Rivers of Living Waters Ministries UCC, New York*. All are invited to support and attend.

**Thursday, April 16, 11am, Celebration of Life of Dr. Stacey May's brother, Barry Tanksley**, will be held at *Robeson and Brown Funeral Home*, 918 Gates street, Brooklyn, NY. All are invited to support and attend.

## OPPORTUNITIES FOR PRAYER, FELLOWSHIP, AND SERVICE

### COMPASSION PRAYERS

- Please keep in heart and prayer church members, families, and friends who stand in the need of prayer. You can find the complete list on the bulletin board in the fellowship hall. (If there are additions, removals, or amendments to this list, please let Pat Williams know.)
- We pray for God's Peace and Justice throughout our country and throughout this world; such as the ongoing wars between Israel and Palestine, Ukraine and Russia, Israel and Iran, The Congo, Somalia and other parts of Africa, and other parts of our world. Global issues, such as, immigration, atomic energy, women and children abuse, active shootings, climate change, attacks on democracy, disarmament, food insecurity, the unsheltered, etc.



### SERVICE

- If you didn't bring your non-perishable food item to be donated to **PEOPLE TO PEOPLE**, this Sunday, and you would like to donate, bring it next week or see Francis Reid, coordinator, for more information.



### UPCOMING EVENTS



*Gospel Jazz Salute to*  
**JOHN ANTHONY**  
PRESENTED BY THE JOHN ANTHONY CELEBRATION FOUNDATION

FEATURING INTERNATIONAL CONCERT RECORDING ARTIST  
**KAY BOYD AND FRIENDS**

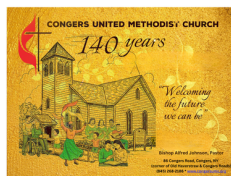
GUEST MUSICIANS  
Dinah Vero (Piano) - Clyde Bullard (Bass)  
Dean Saghafi (Sax) - Greg Barrett (Drums)

**SATURDAY, APRIL 25, 2026**

DOORS OPEN 3:30PM  
CONCERT BEGINS 4:00PM SHARP  
ADMISSION: \$50 ADULTS \$25 YOUNG ADULTS

**The Congers United Methodist Church**  
Education Center  
86 Congers Road, Congers, NY 10920  
Bishop Alfred Johnson, Pastor \* Constance Frazier, Program Coordinator

FOR TICKETS & INFO CALL JAYON ANTHONY 917-570-2686



You are invited to bring a special Easter offering celebrating our 140th Anniversary, if able, \$140.00. If not this Sunday, anytime this year.