

See, I am bringing you good *tidings* of great joy for all the people...Luke 2:10



TIDINGS

Volume 17 issue 12

December 2017

Special points of interest:

Men's Fellowship Breakfast
Page 3

Join Choir
Page 3

Yoga Classes
Page 3

Books for The Village Children
Page 5

North Church Readers
Page 5

Christmas Mission
Page 6

Cookie Sale
Page 6

Calendars of Events
Pages 6-7

Office Hours

Pastor Dave's

office hours are:

Monday 8:00-3:00

Tuesday 8:00-5:30

Friday 8:00-1:00



Saint Nicolas was born on March 15, 270 A.D. in Asia Minor, or modern-day Turkey. He was the only son of wealthy Christian parents who died while he was still very young. He was then raised by his uncle who was the Bishop of Patara. Nicolas himself would grow up to become a Bishop, and was invited by Constantine to be present at the Council of Nicea. He would become the patron saint of sailors, merchants, archers, repentant thieves, children, brewers, pawnbrokers and students. There are many stories of his generosity, especially towards poor children, like him would dropping sacks of money down chimneys, or into open windows while families slept. Some 1700 years later the myths and stories of Saint Nicolas have grown and morphed his legacy into a cultural icon far removed from his original piety and faithfulness.

Today Saint Nicolas (or Santa Claus) wears a red suit, and flies around the world on Christmas delivering toys to good boys and girls. In the secular stories, and T.V. programs of Santa Claus, the religious significance has been removed from the practice of gift giving. Moreover, Santa Claus is always portrayed as a European white man, when in truth he was middle eastern. He is portrayed as jolly, when he was a person of learning and serious religious reflection. I hope this year, as your family celebrates Christmas you take a moment to reflect on how our traditions around Christmas have been changed by consumerism, and advertising. Let's try and understand why we celebrate, and appreciate the gift that is Jesus. Merry Christmas to one and all this year!

Grace and Peace to you all!

Pastor David J. Martin

CHURCH CHRISTMAS PARTY

Saturday, December 2 at 6pm at NUMC

Bring a dish and help us decorate our trees and church sanctuary!

Bring your whole family, it'll be a blast!! We hope

to see you there! :)



Christmas Events— Mark your Calendars!!

Dec. 24 @10:30 am—Christmas Cantata

Followed by the Annual Choir Christmas Cookie Sale

Dec. 24~ CHOIR COOKIE SALE

1 Dozen/\$5 or 3 Dozen/\$12 Assorted Cookies

A few extra boxes are usually available on day of sale.

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES

5 pm—North UMC with Pastor Dave

6:30 pm—Bolton UMC with Pastor Dave

Christmas Poinsettias

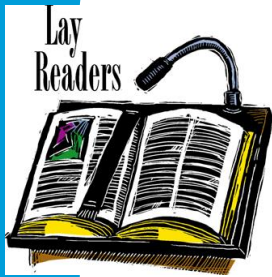


Order Forms are in our Sunday Bulletins and are also available at the sign up table in the Memorial Room. Please be sure to fill out your order form by December 10 and mail to Susan Fenn.

Thank you!

LITURGISTS

USHERS



We welcome anyone interested in serving as a liturgist to contact Barbie Turley.

Responsibilities of the liturgist: lead responsive readings, read the scripture lesson, and assist with communion if assigned on the first Sunday of the month.

December

- 3rd TBD
- 10th Sandy Geres
- 17th TBD
- 24th TBD
- 31st TBD

Ushers Needed!

Responsibilities include: Welcoming Members and Visitors at the door, Handing out bulletins, Record a count of attendance, Collect the offering, and guide people to the altar on Communion Sundays.

Please prayerfully consider this important ministry!

If you have any questions please speak with **Roger Edinger**



Sign up in the Memorial Room

Responsibilities of Ushers:

Welcome members and visitors at the door, hand out bulletins, count attendees, collect the offering, and direct people to the altar table on Communion Sunday. Be available to answer questions of visitors, show them to classrooms for Church School.

Ushers should arrive 30 minutes prior to the start of service. Please be in touch with Roger Edinger 860-646-8984 if you would like to serve.

December

- 3rd Collins Judd
Les VanDine
- 10th Jan Miller
Tim LePore
- 17th Barbara Judd
Becky Harris
- 24th Irene Fitzgerald
Cindy Lepack
- 31st Tim LePore
Harry Arendt

Responsibilities of

Counters: Counters work in teams of two and are responsible for counting the offering on Sunday morning directly following the worship service.

Any member interested in volunteering for this task should contact the church office or talk to any of the counters.



CHURCH

SUNDAY

CLOSING:

TRUSTEE

Members



FELLOWSHIP TIME

Individuals and groups are invited to please volunteer and sign-up in the Memorial Room to provide fellowship refreshments after service on Sunday mornings.

Thank you!

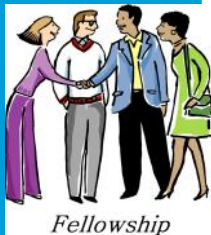


Responsibilities of providing Fellowship:

Bring a quart of whole milk for use with coffee and tea, and a healthy snack to share.

North Church is a NUT FREE zone.

Set-up coffee to brew, hot water for Tea and Hot Chocolate, a pitcher of juice, 2 containers of milk, and sugar/sugar substitute, napkins, and plates if needed. Fellowship is served after the service. Clean-up after fellowship time (approx. 11:50 am) includes washing out pots and containers and returning them to their place in the kitchen, and wiping down tables in the Memorial Room.



Yoga Classes

Tuesdays at 2:00 pm

Please bring a mat (if you have one) and a towel for your head. Both men and women are invited to attend. This is an all levels yoga class at the North United Methodist Church in Manchester. Class will be focused on deep stretching, breathe work and more gentle movements and will incorporate chair yoga as well. Class is \$5 cash. Visit <https://carissagross.com/about/> to learn more about our instructor.



Shopping with Scrip—shop with gift cards OR give gift cards.

Either way you'll support NUMC!!

Please keep Scrip in mind for Holiday Gift Card Giving.

Order any Sunday morning and receive them the following Sunday or check out what we have on hand in stock!

Scrip is Fundraising While You Shop!™



100% Participation in SCRIP is the goal!

PASTOR DAVE WILL BE ON VACATION FROM NOVEMBER 30 – DECEMBER 14. (BACK IN OFFICE ON DECEMBER 15)

MACC Food Pantry 2017

Shopping List:

Lentils * Dry Red Kidney Beans * Cereal * Canned Meats (tuna, chicken, ham & beef stew) * Peanut butter * Pasta & Sauce * Canned Veggies & Fruits * Low Sodium Soup * Chili * Healthy Snacks for Children * Jam/Jelly * Rice * Condiments (mustard, ketchup, mayo, salad dressing, etc.)

Toilet Tissue * Paper Towels * Diapers * Laundry Detergent * Feminine Products * Toothpaste * Tooth Brushes * Soap * Dish Soap * Baby Wipes * Cleaning Products * Deodorant

**We always need paper and plastic grocery bags, clean plastic bottles with tight fitting lids, freezer bags and egg cartons.*

Thanks to all who have been faithfully donating!



Bible Study Tuesdays at Bolton UMC

6:00 pm Potluck * Study starts at 7:00 pm
The Book of James

Speak with Pastor Dave if you have questions

Choir Rehearsals



Every Wednesday—PrISM at 6:00, Chancel at 7 pm

Requirements: love music, love to sing or play an instrument.

Ability to read music is NOT required!

All are welcome and encouraged to join us! Please speak to Chris Collins with any questions.



Healthy Snack Collection

Donation of **healthy snack items continues:** fruit cups, granola bars, individual cereal boxes, fruit and grain bars, pudding/gelatin cups, etc.



Bring donations to church and they will be delivered to Bolton. Thank you!

Men's Fellowship Breakfast

8:00 am

December 30 (BUMC)

Join us for good food and conversation!



DECEMBER Birthdays

2nd Liz Twarkins

4th Barbie Turley

6th Ron Starkweather

12th Pam Putinas

John Wilks

15th Trudi Tinklepaugh

16th Sylvia Lapenta

19th Heidi Lenhardt

24th Ray Gagnon

25th JESUS

Birthday Blessings to Everyone!



FELLOWSHIP OF CONCERN

Sylvia Lapenta Crystal Price Grace Didan Dottie Allen Jean Derby Jenna & Patty Nellie, Ruth Mancell Mary, Marian Mike & Dorothy Thompson, Stephanie Oppon-Kunty, Liz, Sarah & Friends, Ray Johnson, Austin, Craig & Lynn, Heidi Lenhardt, Nellie Mancell, Alisa Smith, Betty Boop, Nichols Family, Joan & Charles Nichols, Mark Fitzgerald, Greg Sholomicky, Carol Haviland

Prayers for Cancer: Sheila, Ann, Beth, Elliot, Betty, Nick, Rachael, Charlotte, Ted, Janet, Muriel, Miriam, Anita, Garry, Lena, Jane, Jennifer, Judy, Joan, Myia, Tracy, Jean, Deb, Jenn, Rose, Jeffrey, Jackie, Diane, Ray, Cindy, Terry, Robin



NORTH UMC will host BLOOD DRIVES

December 7th & 21st

DONORS URGENTLY NEEDED. CALL 1-800-GIVE LIFE (1-800-448-3543) to schedule an appointment.

Volunteers are needed to monitor the building during the drives.

Please sign-up in the Memorial Room to help out.




Questions may be directed to Rev. Martin.



***REMINDER**

Please wear name tags every Sunday.

Anyone in need of a name tag, please note it on the back of your attendance slip on Sunday morning and one will be made for you.



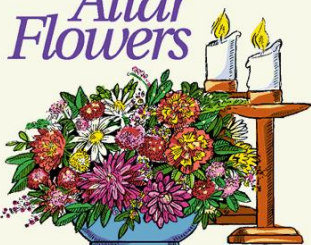
Ad Council Meetings

December 18

January 22

February 19

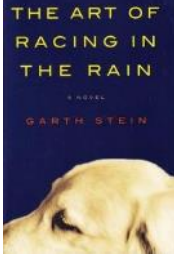
Altar Flowers



Flowers are a wonderful way to acknowledge the Memory of a Loved One or to Celebrate a special person or occasion.

Forms are available in the Memorial Room to make such requests.

If you have any questions or prefer to order by phone, please contact Susan Fenn 860-729-6446



North Church Readers

The North Church Readers invites you to join us for any or all of the books! Our Fifth selection this season is *The Art of Racing in the Rain*, by Garth Stein. Enzo knows he is different than other dogs: a philosopher with a nearly human soul, he has entertained himself by watching TV extensively, and by listening very closely to the words of his master, Denny Swift, and up and coming race car driver. Through Denny, Enzo has gained tremendous insight into the human condition, and sees the world through racing. It isn't simply about going fast. On the eve of his death, Enzo takes stock of his life, recalling all that he and Denny have been through. A heart wrenching, but deeply funny and ultimately as story of family, love, loyalty, and hope of *Racing in the Rain*. This beautifully crafted book looks at the absurdities and wonders of human life...as only a dog can tell it.

Discussion will follow the church service today, January 21. We meet in the library directly after church. Grab your coffee or tea and join us for a good discussion and good friendship. Hope to see you there! See Jackie if you have any questions.



UPCOMING BOOKS FOR NORTH CHURCH READERS 2017-2018

March 18, 2018 *The Secret Chord* by Geraldine Brooks—Jackie Abbott

May 20, 2018 *The Shoemaker's Wife* by Adriana Trigani—Judy Galligan

Reconciling Ministries Welcoming Task Force

The next meeting of will be **Monday, January 8 at 7pm.**

We will continue to meet monthly to further our commitment to diversity and to develop ideas to extend a meaningful welcome to the LGBTQ community. All are welcome.



Books for the Village Children

NUMC will be providing books and small gifts to the 14 children, ages 6-12, who

attend the Village program downstairs. Books and gifts should be new, non-violent and culturally sensitive. A collection box will be available in the memorial room. Please bring items by Sunday, Dec 17. Thank you for helping to let the Village children and staff know that they are not forgotten.

Girls: one age 6; one age 9; two age 10; two age 12.
Boys: Five age 8; three age 11

For questions contact Linda VanDine at 860-646-0366

or lindavandine@gmail.com.



Can & Bottle Drive Fundraiser

Supporting our NUMC Youth Group

A large box is available to put cans & bottles in. We will be doing this continuously for the next few months.



Vital Conversations about Racism and Diversity

February 13-March 20 NUMC Tuesday nights @ 6:00pm

Stay tuned for more details

The Advent Season begins on Sunday, December 3

Each Sunday of Advent, and on Christmas Eve, the Advent candle will be lit during service.

Please consider participating in this part of worship by volunteering, with your family, or friend(s), to light the candle and read a brief passage.

Sign-up in the Memorial Room.



STUFF THAT MATTERS

Stay tuned for the next meeting!

Pastor Dave invites young adults ages 20-34 to join him at North UMC.

Cook together, eat together and clean up together as we discuss *STUFF THAT MATTERS* to you!

YOUNG ADULTS



Mission Project for Christmas

Each year NUMC provides food and gifts for MACC families with children. Households with only adults receive a Christmas dinner but no gifts. Last year the Outreach Committee put together 30 Blessing Bags that were given to single adults without children. We are taking on a more ambitious project this year to make sure no one will be left out and will receive a token gift. If you would like to help with this project, we will be collecting small items until December 10th. Suggestions for the Blessing Bags:

- winter hats, scarves, gloves, socks
- toothpaste , toothbrush, deodorant
- shampoo, conditioner, nail clippers
- razors, shaving cream
- hand lotion, face cream
- gum, candy, snack bars
- coffee gift certificates
- bus passes, flashlights
- small tissue packs
- and any small item that you think would make someone happy!

Please; nothing with alcohol such as mouth wash or hand sanitizer.

We have 100 8” X 5” bags so we can’t take anything too large. We will be looking for help to fill these bags after December 10th! See anyone on the Outreach Committee for more information.

***We need help to fill Blessing Bags on Friday,
December 8 at 10am.**

***We need volunteers to help wrap gifts on Friday,
December 15 at 10am.**

Substitute Sunday School Teachers Needed!!

Please consider participating in this ministry when our Sunday School Teachers or our Nursery leaders are unable to teach. We would hate to have to cancel Sunday School because we do not have a teacher. Curriculum is easy to follow.

Teachers Needed!



Please prayerfully consider being on our substitute teacher list. If you would like to shadow a teacher one morning, please let us know!

Sign-up in the Memorial Room.



Christmas Cookie Assortment SALE

Sunday, December 24

Personal size-1 dozen/\$5 Family size-3 dozen/\$12

Sign up to pre-order cookie boxes – some additional boxes may be available for purchase following worship service. Proceeds support our Music Ministry.

If you would like to help with baking, please indicate the type of cookie and how many you will make. This is VERY IMPORTANT to ensure a good variety!

Sign up in the Memorial Room!

Christmas Card Mailbox

The North Church Christmas Mailbox will be available starting December 3 for the exchange of cards with your church family and friends. The box is located in the back of the sanctuary and has slots organized alphabetically by last initial. Please remember to check for cards you may have received each week. The mailbox will be available until January 7th. You are welcome to deliver cards to friends and neighbors who have not been present to pick up their cards.



THE KNITTING MINISTRY



The Knitting Ministry

meets from 1:00-2:30 pm in the Memorial Room. All are welcome with or without yarn skills. We are all patient teachers and our patterns are easy.

Meeting Schedule: 12/4, 12/18.

Contact: Paula Adamczyk: anthony.adamczyk@snet.net or Sue Derby: susanderby@cox.net

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
3	4	5	6	7	1 / 8	2 / 9
10:30 Worship w/Sunday School 11:30 Fellowship	1 pm Knitting Ministry	2:00 Yoga 7:00 Meditation	Choir Rehearsal: 6:00 PrISM 7:00 Chancel		Dec 8 10am Fill Blessings Bags	Dec 2nd 6 pm Church Christmas Party
Pastor Dave on Vacation						
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
10:30 Worship w/Sunday School 11:30 Fellowship		2:00 Yoga 7:00 Meditation	Choir Rehearsal: 6:00 PrISM 7:00 Chancel		Tidings Submission Deadline 10 am Wrap Gifts	
Pastor Dave on Vacation						
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
10:30 Worship w/Sunday School 11:30 Fellowship	1 pm Knitting Ministry 6:15 Finance 7:00 Ad Council	2:00 Yoga 7:00 Meditation	Choir Rehearsal: 6:00 PrISM 7:00 Chancel			10 am Choir Cantata Rehearsal & cookie box assembly
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
10:30 Worship w/Cantata 11:30 Fellowship and Cookie Sale Christmas Eve 5pm at NUMC 6:30 at Bolton	Christmas Day	7:00 Meditation				8:00 am Men's Fellowship Breakfast at BUMC
31	1					
10:15 Hymn Sing 10:30 Worship w/Sunday School 11:30 Fellowship	Happy New Year					

North United Methodist Church
300 Parker Street
Manchester, CT 06042

Address Service Requested



North United Methodist
300 Parker Street
Manchester, CT 06042

Pastor: David J. Martin

*Worship the Lord in the
splendor of his holiness!*

1 Corinthians 16:29

Phone: 860-649-3696
E-mail: northchurch@snet.net
Web-Site: <http://numc.axelhouse.com>

New England Conference
Web-Site: <http://www.neumc.org>

CHOIR WARM UP

9:30 am

NURSERY—upon request

10:15 am—11:45 am

WORSHIP

10:30 am Worship,
Youth and Children's Sunday
School, One-Room for Summer

FELLOWSHIP

11:30 am

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Children attend the beginning of
the service at 10:30 am and then
proceed to class following the
Children's Time. Classes dis-
miss at 11:45 am.

10:30 am

Worship

COMMUNION
SUNDAYS

The first Sunday of each month
is Communion Sunday, at
which time the children will
begin in Sunday School classes
and then attend church with
their families in corporate
worship at the time for
communion and will remain
until the conclusion of service.

For over 200 years,
North UMC has pro-
claimed the good news
of Jesus Christ to the
people of Manchester
CT. We invite you to
join us for worship on
Sunday mornings.

*A warm welcome
awaits you!*

**As followers of the teachings of Jesus Christ,
North United Methodist Church strives to be
an inclusive community. We welcome, respect
and celebrate persons of every race,
ethnicity, gender identity,
sexual orientation, national
origin, ability, family
status, age and economic
circumstance. We want
you to feel at home and
know that you belong
here.**

