



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

TIDINGS

Volume 17 issue 3

March 2017

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I've been reading Watchman Nee's book: Sit, Walk, Stand. I found myself resonating with his concept of sitting with Christ. He gave an interesting illustration about a man who had been betrayed by his wife who left him for his best friend. His anger sat in contradiction to his Christian belief in forgiveness and loving even his enemy. He struggled with his inability to do this. A part of him felt that he **MUST** do something. Watchman Nee reminds us that for us, an answer to our hurts and betrayal requires no action other than to sit with Christ, who will work through us. To remember that Jesus has already liberated us, already won the battle for our souls, and granted us forgiveness, is to sit with Christ. Loving our neighbor, or our enemy, is merely allowing the love of Christ to shine through us.

This Lenten season I hope you will all spend some time sitting with Christ. Or rather, reflecting deeply on the truth that it is Jesus who liberates us from sin, anger, hurt, fear and anxiety. The burdens of sin and worldliness are difficult to bear. God through Christ seeks to bear those burdens for us, to lift the yoke from our necks and free us for something greater in this life... and the next. Peace be with you during this Lenten season.

Grace and Peace to you all!

Pastor David J. Martin

Souper Bowl Sunday

The day before Super Bowl Sunday The North United Methodist Church Youth Group, along with a few parents and advisors, lock themselves in the church around 3PM. They work until the wee hours of the morning baking breads and making soups, grinders, sandwiches, brownies and cookies, that they sell to raise money for the local MACC Charity.

We've already reported raising \$1225 for MACC this year but understand there is some more coming in so we'll be updating soon.

We'd like to share something from one of our youth group members who participated this year:

Participating in the SOUPER Bowl means being a part of a great community of people who are there, not only to raise money, but to have fun. My experiences with the SOUPER Bowl have been nothing short of amazing. Every kid's dream is to stay up way past their bedtime, but to also be cooking and baking for a good cause at the same time is wonderful. We all have fun, and we all work hard together as a team and it feels incredible to help out and to have a great time.

Paige Gagnon
North United Methodist Church
Manchester, CT

Thank you,
Tim McLaughlin & Charlene Sullivan
Youth Advisors



Office Hours

Pastor Dave's
office hours are:

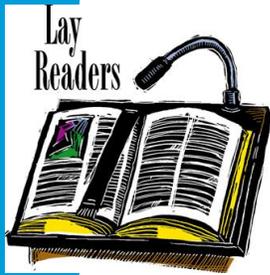
Monday 8:00-3:00

Tuesday 8:00-5:30

Thursday 8:00-1:00

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.

March

- 5th Vickie Hadge
- 12th Sandy Geres
- 19th Barbie Turley
- 26th Karen Cadman

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.

March

- 5th Jan Miller
- Judy Starkweather
- 12th Barbara Judd
- Becky Harris
- 19th Irene Fitzgerald
- Cindy Lepack
- 26th 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!

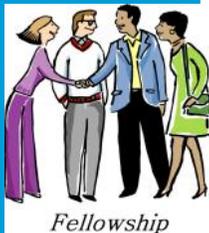


Responsibilities of providing Fellowship:

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.



Fellowship

Box Tops

There will be a collection box in the back of the church for anyone who wants to donate their box tops. They can just put them in there! The box tops will be divided between all the Manchester public schools. If you have any questions please contact Kayle Gagnon 860-830-8062



SCRIP is NUMC's on-going fundraiser in which all are welcome and encouraged to participate every week!

If everyone were to participate by simply purchasing store cards for their weekly grocery budget—the church would benefit greatly with **NO additional cost to you**. Not to mention other regular purchases—gas, drug stores, restaurants, fast food, etc.

Direct questions to:
Irene Fitzgerald
860-649-4239

GIVE Gift Cards and/or USE Gift Cards for routine purchases! 100% Participation in SCRIP is the goal!



Choir Rehearsals



Wednesdays—PrISM 6:00pm,
Chancel 7pm

Come join in the fun!!! New members are always welcome!

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.

The results from the Music Surveys are Located in the Memorial Room!!!



MACC Food Pantry 2017

Shopping List:

Cereal * Canned Meats (tuna, chicken, ham & beef stew) * Peanut butter * Pasta & Sauce * Canned Veggies & Fruits * Low Sodium Soup * 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 * Deoderant

**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!

Uganda Methodist Church is in need of more seeds!

We are looking for more seed donations for gardeners in the Uganda Methodist church that we have worked with in the past. The seeds that we need are: **tomatoes, corn, peppers, spinach, beans, peas, cucumbers, pumpkin, watermelon, squash, cabbage, carrots, cantaloupe, broccoli and celery**. Lori has also been working with a Christian pastor in India named Yesupadam Lankapelli who is



building a 20 child Christian Orphanage. They **needs a well** for their new home which costs **\$600**.

The North Church Readers

continues their exploration of a list of books chosen by group members. We invite you to join us for any or all of the books!

Our sixth selection is *Leaving Before the Rains Come*, by Alexandra Fuller. It is about a child of the Rhodesian wars and a daughter of deeply complicated parents. Alexandra Fuller is no stranger to pain, but the disintegration of Fuller's marriage leaves her shattered. Looking to pick up the pieces of her life, she finally confronts the tough questions about her past, the American she married, and the family she left behind in Africa. Fuller tries to delicately balance between American pragmatism and African fatalism. Fuller reveals how, after spending a lifetime fearfully waiting for someone to show up and save her, she discovered in the end, we all simply have to save ourselves.



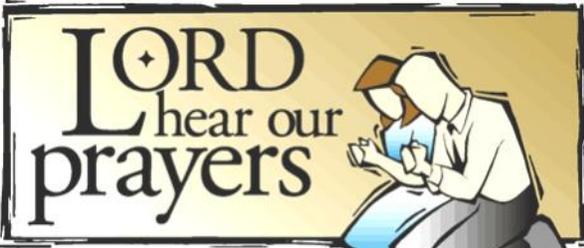
Discussion will follow the church service on March 19th.

We meet in the library if available. 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.



Birthdays
MARCH
 5th Ryan Harris
 6th Paula Smith
 Rob Arendt
 12th Joan Byron
 15th Caleb Cadman
 21st Katelyn Gagnon
 Ashley Lepack
 25th Judy Galligan
 30th Jan Miller
 31st Melissa Lepack

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, Patty Wade, Austin, Craig & Lynn, Kris Pelletier, Heidi Lenhardt, Nellie Mancell, Susan Fenn, Alisa Smith, Betty Boop, Nichols Family, Jack Harris

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, John



**NORTH UMC will host BLOOD DRIVES
 March 9 & 23**

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.



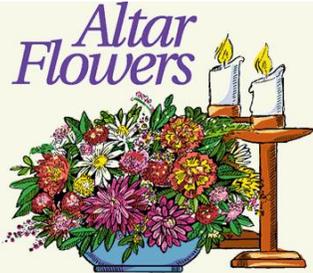
***REMINDER**
Please wear name tags every Sunday.

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

March 26
 April 25
 May 22



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

THE KNITTING MINISTRY

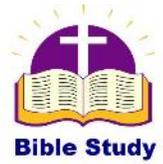
THE KNITTING MINISTRY meets in the Memorial Room 1-2:30pm. All are welcome with or without yarn skills. We are all patient teachers and our patterns are easy.

The knitting ministry will meet in March on the 6th and 20th.

Contact: Paula Adamczyk 860-646-6609 or Sue Derby 860-643-4589



Bible Study Tuesdays at Bolton UMC



We will be studying Psalms from January 31, 2017 to March 21, 2017. There will be a potluck dinner starting at 6:15 pm with the study starting at 7:00 pm

Sign up in the Memorial Room.

Please speak to Pastor Dave with any questions.

NORTH CHURCH LEADERSHIP 2017

As we begin a new year we report the roll of leaders for the coming year. Some continue in their roles while others join them with new responsibilities. We hope this listing will help all of our North Church community know who to reach for information, thanks, and questions. Post this page on your refrigerator for easy reference next to your new North Church Directory. This reporter uses both frequently.

Lay Leader Karen Arendt

Ad Council Chair Jessica Smith

Finance Chair Jan Miller

Finance Secretary Jackie Abbott

Treasurer Don Camper

Stewardship Judy Galligan

Trustees Carole Williamson

Mission Outreach Jessica Smith

MACC Marlene Camper

Staff Parish Relations Tim McLaughlin

Lay Leader to Conference Deb Tedford

Worship Vacant

Education/Youth Group Tim McLaughlin and Charlene Sullivan

Tidings Caleb Cadman

Minister of Music Christine Collins

Office Manager Staff Makayla Roman,

Per Diem Office Manager Irene Fitzgerald

Custodians Ron and Judy Starkweather

Pastor David Martin

* Please let Jackie Abbott know if you find errors.

QUIET REFLECTION TIME

Starting the first Sunday of Lent (March 1st to April 13th) we will be observing quiet reflection time in the Sanctuary before Worship Service from approximately 10:15 am to 13:30 am.

There will be some stations in the sanctuary every week where people can do an alternate devotional reflection.

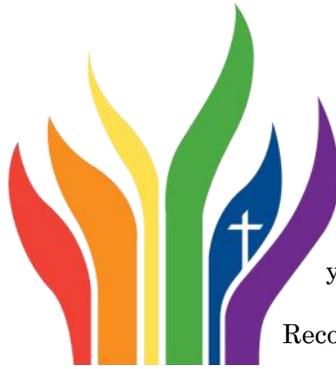
If you do not wish to partake in silence in the Sanctuary, the Memorial Room will be available. There will be signs to remind people and doors will be closed to facilitate the quiet reflection.



WELCOME



We are happy to have Jackie Abbott as a new reporter for Tidings. She has contributed several articles for this issue and we look forward to more going forward. If you have an article to contribute or ideas for content you would like to see featured, please contact Jackie or Caleb Cadman. Thanks!



Update from Reconciling Ministries Committee

Our committee continues to meet on the first Monday of the month. The next meeting will be March 6 at 7 PM. New members are always welcome so bring your ideas and join us!

Reconciling Ministries Library Offerings:
Four books on LGBTQ issues have

been donated to the church library and are available for borrowing: *Always My Child* by Kevin Jennings; *Changing Our Mind* by David Gushee; *Raising My Rainbow* by Lori Duran; and *The Bible's YES to Same Sex Marriage* by Mark Achtemeier. The DVD *For the Bible Tells Me So* is also available.

Each month we will highlight one of the above selections.

Always My Child by Kevin Jennings

The first book to focus on the day-to-day experiences of adolescents dealing with sexual identity issues, *Always My Child* provides the insights and practical strategies parents need to support their kids and cope themselves.

Parents whose children are gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender or who are going through a "questioning phase" are often in the dark about what their children face every day. As a result, offering support that will comfort and fortify them feels like solving a puzzle with missing pieces. In *Always My Child*, Kevin Jennings supplies the missing pieces by guiding parents through the world their child inhabits. He explains what these teens often encounter -- teasing and harassment -- and offers solutions for parents who want to better understand their LGBTQ children and learn how to protect their self-esteem. He offers advice, including how to:

- Initiate constructive communication with their child
- Respond effectively to frequently asked questions
- Recognize depression and signs of drug abuse and harassment
- Successfully advocate for their child's well-being outside the home

Always My Child makes it possible for parents to create the kind of relationship with their children that allows them to grow into emotionally healthy adults. To borrow a book or DVD just sign your name and date on the card in the back of the book and place it in the library box.

Men's Fellowship Breakfast — 8:00 AM

March 25 at BUMC

Share tasty food (healthy options available) and fellowship as we



gather in community with the men of Bolton UMC every fourth Saturday.

Bolton UMC Meatloaf Dinner

Saturday, March 25

4:30 pm—6:00 pm

\$10.00/Adult

\$9.00/ Senior



Pastor Dave lobbied hard for this meatloaf dinner and has



promised to cook the meatloaf. If you would like a gastronomical delight, come and eat Pastor Dave's meatloaf at this dinner.

INVOLVED IN HEIFER PROGRAM

Our young people have been educating us this month about the Heifer Program. From them we have learned about ducks, llamas and goats. Heifer International encourages friends to contribute money to purchase an animal from chickens to cows and from books to libraries, all going to people in need. Once the animal, in this case, is received the family cares for it. Once babies are born the family is obliged to give the newborn to a neighbor to do the same. The concept is simple- receive a gift of love, nurture the gift, and pass along a gift in kind to a neighbor. The children learn this simple idea by example. Our offerings, added to theirs will surely buy something special.

We will have Heifer International Ambassador Sue Moon do a special Children's Time on March 12.ay and be inspired to help this powerful mission.



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
			Choir Rehearsal: 6:00 PrISM 7:00 Chancel			
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
10:15 Quiet Time 10:30 Worship w/Sunday School & Communion 11:30 Fellowship	1 pm Knitting Ministry 7 pm Reconciling Ministries	7:00 Meditation Bible Study— Psalms at BUMC 6:15 pm Potluck 7:00 pm Study	Choir Rehearsal: 6:00 PrISM 7:00 Chancel			
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
10:15 Quiet Time 10:30 Worship w/Sunday School 11:30 Fellowship		7:00 Meditation Bible Study— Psalms at BUMC 6:15 pm Potluck 7:00 pm Study	Choir Rehearsal: 6:00 PrISM 7:00 Chancel	Tidings Submission Deadline		
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
10:15 Quiet Time 10:30 Worship w/Sunday School 11:30 Fellowship North Church Readers Book Discussion	1 pm Knitting Ministry 	7:00 Meditation Bible Study— Psalms-BUMC 6:15 pm Potluck 7:00 pm Study	Choir Rehearsal: 6:00 PrISM 7:00 Chancel			8 am Men's Fellowship Breakfast at BUMC 4:30 pm BUMC Meatloaf Dinner
26	27	28				
10:15 Quiet Time 10:30 Worship w/Sunday School 11:30 Fellowship AD Council—lunch provided		7:00 Meditation				

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.**

