

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



TIDINGS

Volume 17 issue 5

May 2017

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As I write this the Commission on the Way Forward, a committee that came out of 2016 General Conference has been hard at work looking for a way to help our denomination avoid a schism. The most pressing issue is one of whether the church should retain its official stance on homosexuality, or move to a position of inclusion. However, this is not our only vital issue, it's just the most visible and sensationalized one. At the same time our church is in the middle of a church trial to determine whether Bishop Karen Oliveto's (the first LGBTQ bishop) election to Bishop was legal, and if not to have her removed. Bishop Oliveto is an openly gay woman, and is married to her wife Robin. The Jurisdictional Conference that elected her knew that she was gay, and that the election could be problematic. However, her qualifications, and who she is as a member of the clergy, convinced many that she was the right person at the right time to be elevated to the position of Bishop.

During the trial, the "prosecution" has consistently sought to dehumanize Bishop Oliveto, and characterize her as immoral and unfit to be ordained, never mind be commissioned a Bishop. This trial is symptomatic of what ails our denomination. We seem to be at an impasse when it comes to respectful dialogue, that's why the Way Forward was commissioned. I respectfully ask each of you to pray for our church leadership as they do this important work. Regardless of how one might feel about homosexuality, the church has an obligation to treat all of God's children with decency, respect, and compassion. Sometimes it feels like we are losing sight of that bigger picture in this struggle to "win." May the peace of Christ prevail in the church.

Grace and Peace to you all!

Pastor David J. Martin

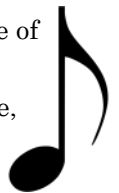
Northampton Pride Parade – Saturday, May 6, Noon

Wesley UMC in Hadley, MA has invited us to march with them in the Northampton Pride Parade! The parade begins in downtown Northampton and goes for 1 mile to the Three County Fairgrounds where there will be food, music and general merriment. We can arrange a parade vehicle for those who can't walk the distance. We hope to have a good turnout to help us carry our North Church banner! For details contact Linda VanDine (860-646- 0366) or Pastor Dave.



Sunday, May 7

North United Methodist Church invites you to celebrate **Good Shepherd Sunday** on May 7 with a musical service of witness to Pepper Choplin's cantata *Psalm 23, A Journey With the Shepherd*. Please join us to experience this unique, lovely, and affirming work.



Office Hours

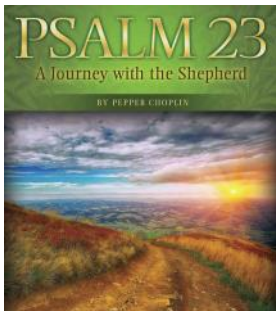
Pastor Dave's

office hours are:

Monday 8:00-3:00

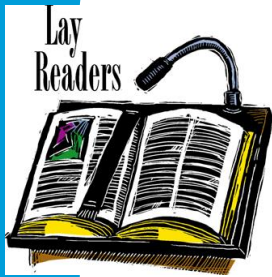
Tuesday 8:00-5:30

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.

May

- 7th
- 14th
- 21th Sandy Geres
- 28th Doris Frimpong

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.

May

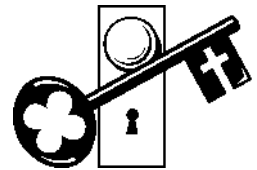
- 7th Collins Judd
- Les VanDine
- 14th Jan Miller
- Judy Starkweather
- 21th Barbara Judd
- Becky Harris
- 28th Irene Fitzgerald
- Cindy Lepack



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:

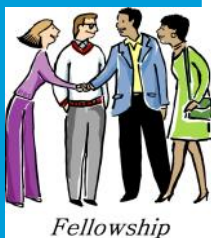
TRUSTEE

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.

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



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!!!



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.

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!



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!

Can & Bottle Drive Fundraiser

Supporting our NUMC Youth Group

Large boxes will be available to put cans & bottles in. We will be doing this continuously for the next few months.



The Youth Group will be going on a Retreat to New Hampshire May 19-21

The North Church Readers: We invite you to join us for our last reading of the season! Our Final selection this season is *The Nightingale*, by Kristin Hannah and published in 2015. It tells the story of two sisters, just coming of age in France on the eve of World War II, and their struggle to survive and resist the German occupation of France.

Discussion will follow the church service on May 21. 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!



Birthdays
MAY

5th Sarah Flaherty
14th Jane Hopkins
18th Sue Derby
Mike Geres
Cindi Gilligan
22nd Paige LeBlanc
29th Anita Baten
30th Jim Williamson

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, 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 Harris



NORTH UMC will host BLOOD DRIVES
May 11 & 25

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.



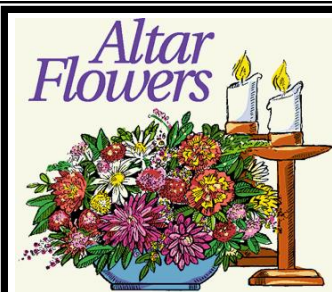
***REMINDER**
Please wear name tags
every Sunday.

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

May 22
June 19
September 18
October 16



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

37th Annual Randy Smith Track Meet

Saturday, May 20th

Manchester High School



It is that time of year again when we support Thayer Redmond and the Manchester High Track students with donations for sneakers, as well as staffing the awards table on the day of the meet.



A Sign-up is available in the Memorial Room to take a slot (or two) and staff the Awards Table during the meet on the 20th.



We will also take donations at the SCRIP table on Sunday mornings (during the entire month of May) for the purchase of sneakers. Please donate any amount you wish and then Gift Cards for the total amount collected will be given to Thayer to replenish his stock of sneakers for students.



THANKS TO YOU!
Your support makes a difference



Bible Study

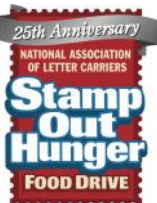
**Bible Studies
Coming Soon**

May 9th
to June 6th

7pm Tuesday
Nights at BUMC

“The Survey of
Paul”

See Pastor Dave
with any
questions.



Letter Carrier's Food Drive - Saturday, May 13, 2017

On Saturday, May 13, 2017, the Letter Carriers' Food Drive celebrates its 25th year helping the hungry. Put your non-perishable donation in a bag by your mailbox and they will deliver it to your local food bank! Thank you for your support!



STUFF THAT MATTERS

SUNDAY, MAY 21ST 5:00 PM TO 7:00 PM!

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



Flamingo Big Band Concert

Saturday, June 17, 7-9 PM

Flamingo is a 14 piece all female big band of experienced professional musicians specializing in music from the swing era with a sprinkling of rock 'n roll, pop tunes, and rhythm and blues. Invite your friends and neighbors! Light refreshments will be served at intermission.



Advance tickets are \$12 general admission and \$10 for seniors. Cash and check only please.

They may be purchased after Sunday services or reserved by calling Sue at 860-218-4686 or emailing northchurch@snet.net. Tickets at the door will be \$15. The concert is a fundraiser for Reconciling Ministries Network supporting the LGBT community and will be held at North United Methodist Church, 300 Parker St, Manchester, CT.

Update from Reconciling Ministries Committee

Our committee continues to meet on the first Monday of the month. 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.

Changing Our Mind, Second Ed by David Gushee

“Every generation has its hot-button issue,” writes David P. Gushee, “For us, it’s the LGBT issue.” In *Changing Our Mind*, Gushee takes the reader along his personal and theological journey as he changes his mind about gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender inclusion in the Church. “For decades now, David Gushee has earned the reputation as America’s leading evangelical ethicist. In this book, he admits that he has been wrong on the LGBT issue.” writes Brian D. McLaren, author and theologian.



Men’s Fellowship Breakfast — 8:00 AM

May 20 at NUMC



Share tasty food (healthy options available) and fellowship as we gather in community with the men of Bolton UMC every fourth Saturday.



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 May on the 1st and 15th.

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



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
	1 pm Knitting Ministry 7 pm Reconciling Ministries	7:00 Meditation	Choir Rehearsal: 6:00 PrISM 7:00 Chancel			12 Northampton Pride Parade Walk 
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
CANTATA 10:30 Worship w/Sunday School & Communion 11:30 Fellowship 		7:00 Meditation 7pm Bible Study at BUMC "Paul"	Choir Rehearsal: 6:00 PrISM 7:00 Chancel			Letter Carrier's Food Drive 
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
10:30 Worship w/Sunday School 11:30 Fellowship	1 pm Knitting Ministry 	7:00 Meditation 7pm Bible Study at BUMC "Paul"	Choir Rehearsal: 6:00 PrISM 7:00 Chancel	Tidings Submission Deadline		8:00 am Men's Fellowship Breakfast at NUMC
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
10:30 Worship w/Sunday School 11:30 Fellowship 5pm Stuff That Matters	Ad Council	7:00 Meditation 7pm Bible Study at BUMC "Paul"	Choir Rehearsal: 6:00 PrISM 7:00 Chancel			
28	29	30	31			
10:15 Hymn Sing 10:30 Worship w/Sunday School 11:30 Fellowship		7:00 Meditation 7pm Bible Study at BUMC "Paul"	Choir Rehearsal: 6:00 PrISM 7:00 Chancel		MAY	

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.**

