

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

TIDINGS

Volume 22 issue 4

April 2022



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Greetings Brothers and Sisters!

"Therefore be merciful, just as your Father also is merciful." Luke 6:36.



Usually, my April message is about Easter, and new life in springtime. I crowbar something about crocus or daffodils, greenery etc. I, like most of you, relish the end of winter and the start of warmer, sunnier months. But, instead of all that I want to take a bit of your time to talk about what's happening in the world. The pandemic rages on in some states, and of course places like



Thailand and Hong Kong have been overwhelmed with the omicron variant. Global gas prices are causing economic hardships for the poor and working classes. And, an unjust war of aggression rages in Ukraine. These are just the things that have been grabbing the headlines. What we seldom hear about is the excruciating poverty throughout the world. We rarely see the true horrors of our planet's ecological disasters (try googling some images). With so much evil, suffering and injustice in the world, how can we possibly look forward to Easter? Isn't it just another story of brutal oppression, violence and death?

We Christians do something odd when viewed in context. We wear crosses around our necks, adorn our homes and churches with them, and emboss them on shirts and articles of clothing. It is the symbol of our religion. The cross was the means by which Jesus was executed. If he had been hanged, we would wear nooses and have them on our altars. How many of you would wear a gold chain with a tiny electric chair on it? Pretty grim right? But here's the thing. The great power of our Christian symbols is not rooted in the power of violence and oppression. The power of the cross symbolizes mercy to the Christian heart; mercy is powerful! It is a stark reminder that the world seldom offers mercy, but through Christ we see the fullness of God's love for humanity. God's mercy has overcome spiritual death. It comforts the wounded and afflicted. Mercy is the foil of cruelty, as hope is the opposite of despair. As we wind up this Lenten season, I hope you will reflect on both the good and the bad in this world. Then, consider how God asks us to be merciful to the world, for when we show mercy, we show the true power of God.

Pastor David J. Martin



Holy Week

Office Hours

Pastor Dave

Monday & Tuesday

8:00-5:00ish

Office Manger Makayla

Monday & Thursday

9:00-12:00

IMPORTANT information regarding in person worship!!!

1. Everyone must wear a mask in the building.
2. There will be no congregational singing until it's safe to do so (except during outdoor worship). Singing causes, us to express our breath in a way that significantly increases the chance of transmission. We would have to social distance some 30 ft making corporate worship impossible. We truly regret this. The Music Director, Chris Collins, will be working hard at finding alternatives for this activity, she already has lots of great ideas! When we worship outdoors, we will have congregational singing.
3. All who enter the worship space must sanitize their hands. If they leave the worship space to use the bathroom, they must re-sanitize at the door. We also strongly encourage you to wash your hands in the bathroom as well.
4. Entrances and exits are one way. Entry will be via the office door (on the portico), exits will be via the double glass doors onto the portico. Exiting for the bathroom will be through the memorial room door. No exceptions.
5. Offering plates will be available near the ushers on tables by the entrance and exits. The offering will not be taken during worship. Please make your offering as you come in or as you leave.
6. The chairs will be set up 6 ft apart in any direction. Only family members living in the same household may move their chairs to be next to one another. However, if those chairs are closer than 6 ft to someone NOT in their household, the family will have to make another arraignment to get their chairs together.
7. Starting May 16th, we could have a few tables set up (café style) for families to sit together. Please call in advance and let us know if your family would like a table.
8. We strongly urge everyone to maintain social distancing while in the building. This means there will be no fellowship/coffee hour. Please refrain from hugging, shaking hands and other behaviors that could potentially transmit the virus. We are not out of the woods just yet!

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83102141139>

Passcode: 1234

+1 929 205 6099 US (New York) Meeting ID: 831 0214 1139

Service Opportunity

We have a wonderful opportunity for you to serve NUMC! We have an opening for a Zoom host for our Sunday services. NUMC will be continuing to offer Zoom access to Sunday services to those who are not comfortable with or not able to attend in person. This ministry has been very important to many members of our congregation and guests. It is a link to our church family and is in keeping with our traditions of outreach and caring for our neighbors.

Being a host is easy and fun! It is only a once a month commitment and it comes with free training! We have a very detailed guide and there is typically someone at the Zoom worship service that is there to help as well.

If you are interested please reach out via email to Vickie at vlhadge@yahoo.com



MACC Services

The **Community Kitchen** is open, giving out hot lunches on Tuesdays, Wednesdays & Thursdays. Bag lunches are available on Mondays, Fridays & Saturdays



Lunch is served between **11:30am & 12:45pm** each day (no appointment necessary)
You can reach the kitchen @ **860-647-8003 x 21**

The **Community Emergency Food Pantry** provides groceries by appointment only. Please call **860-647-8003 x 28**

The **Community Threads Thrift Shoppe** hours are Mon through Fri 10am – 2pm and Sat 10am – 1pm
860-647-8003 x 29

For **Community Outreach and Emergency Services**
Please call **860-647-8003 x 31**

Food donations can be dropped off at the Community Emergency Food Pantry, located at 460 Main St. in Manchester, CT Monday through Thursday 9am-4pm and Friday 9am-2pm (or call to schedule a time).

For all other donations, please call 860-647-0440.

MACC EMERGENCY NEEDS ITEMS

- Beans (Canned, All Beans: Black Brown, Red)
- Beef Stew (Canned)
- Chili (Canned)
- Cleaning Supplies
- Condiments: ketchup, mustard, mayo, salad dressing, etc.
- Cooking Oil
- Flour
- Fruit (Canned)
- Ground Coffee (Regular, Decaf, Instant)
- Hygiene Products for adults and children: Soap, shampoo, body wash, deodorant, wipes etc.
- Instant Potatoes (Not Mashed)
- Jelly
- Mac & Cheese
- Pasta
- Produce (Fresh Produce Mondays – Thursdays ONLY)
- Soups (Canned, All)
- Stuffing (Boxed)
- Sugar
- Vegetables (Canned)

Blended and ZOOM Worship Continues

As of 2/2/22 the Connecticut positivity rate is 7.43% The CD guidelines say that fully vaccinated groups are at reduced risk when positivity is under 9% We further reduce the risk by maintaining social distance, wearing masks and keeping gathering spaces well ventilated. We welcome back to worship folks who wear their masks and practice social distancing, and strongly encourage for the safety of everyone that every member be vaccinated and boosted.

I know for some the risks are a factor in returning fully to worship, which is why our hybrid zoom ministry is so important. We could use a few more folks at home who would be willing to help with zoom. Please contact Vicki.

Grace and Peace,
Pastor Dave



April Birthdays

1st Julie LePore

5th Kow De-Graft-Eshun

8th Sarah Cadman

14th Elaine Hadge

18th Judy Starkweather

22nd Paul Gilligan

24th Tony Adamczyk

25th Vickie Hadge

27th Taryn Gilligan

29th Stephen Gagnon

Katherine Turley

30th Martina Brew

Birthday Blessings to Everyone!



FELLOWSHIP OF CONCERN

Crystal Price, Dottie Allen, Jean Derby, Jenna & Patty, Nellie, Ruth Mancell, Mary, Marian, Mike & Dorothy Thompson, Liz, Sarah & Friends, Ray Johnson, Austin,

Decency Wins, Sue L. Alisa Smith, Nichols Family, Joan & Charles Nichols, Mark Fitzgerald, Carol Haviland, Judy Parlee, Jack Stroup, Stephanie Oppon-Kunty, Sara Miller, Florence, Gary Chappell, Ron Starkweather, Wayne Zorger Sr. Melissa Lepack, JanMarie, Robert, Kevin Saint Hilaire, Susan Fenn, Jack Benton, Walter Johnson, Lisa Roman, Olivia Roman, Matt Turkington

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, Sheena, Geoff, Tricia, Marilyn, Dave, Henriet, Tom, Brenda, Ella, Sue, Deb C.



NORTH UMC will host BLOOD DRIVES

April 7th and 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 Meeting



TBD

Altar Flowers



Flowers are a wonderful way to acknowledge the Memory of a Loved One or to Celebrate a special person or occasion. Consider what you may have to offer, fresh and seasonal are especially nice. *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

WAMS (Wellness And Multiple Sclerosis)!

WAMS is a positive and affirming group that focuses on living well with MS using the Overcoming MS program and is co-led by North Members Heidi Lenhardt and Vickie Hadge.

If you are newly diagnosed, have been living with MS for years, or are an MS care partner WAMS welcomes you! WAMS is a friendly, non-judgmental and safe place where privacy is protected. No matter where you are on your MS wellness journey we encourage our members to “do whatever it takes” to live well to be the healthiest they can. WAMS typically meets on the third Sunday of the month 4:30 PM - 5:30 PM ET (we will meet in person or on Zoom - details will be sent prior to each meeting).

Please reach out via email to Vickie at vlhadge@yahoo.com or Heidi wellnessandms@yahoo.com for more details!



Knitting Ministry

Our NUMC Knitting group's schedule has meetings held from 1:00pm -2:30pm. The tables will be set up so that everyone is spaced apart and masks will be required the entire time when we can meet in person, otherwise on ZOOM. The ministry will meet Mondays. All are welcome! :)

Our group is open to all with or without yarn skills. Contact: Paula Adamecyk anthony.adamecyk@snet.net or Susan Derby susanderby@cox.net with questions.

We've given MACC 51 hats, 6 scarves, 1 lap blanket and one small shawl so far this this winter. We gave 8 baby blankets to ECHN Birthing Center- Betsy, the director was thrilled to have them and sends her thanks to all.

We're all keeping busy!

Bible Study

Bible Study are every Tuesday at 6:30pm in person at Bolton or via zoom.

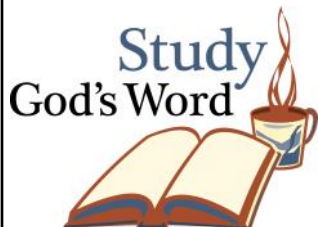
Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89268730478>

Passcode: 1234

+1 929 205 6099 US (New York)

Meeting ID: 892
6873 0478



Online Giving

Online giving is available at:

<http://www.simplechurchgiving.net/northumc>

or scan the QR code shown below to go to the site. Set up an account and conveniently schedule your routine giving. Never miss another month or have to remember your

checkbook. One time donations can be made as well. Selecting 'Bank Account' rather than 'Credit Card' costs NUMC the least in fees, but of course all donations are welcome.

Please contact us if you have any questions about online giving. Thank You!



April 5, 2022 A daily prayer from the New England Conference

Members of the New England Conference Extended Cabinet are sharing a daily prayer based on the Revised Common Lectionary for the week.

Holy One,

You understand our wanting to have uncertainties tied down, safe and secure.

We like things to turn out the way we plan.

Yet, all around us we see little certainty: waves of pandemic, unthinkable military invasion, killing of the innocent, disagreement over truth, sickness, memories in conflict, and chaos sown for money and career – even in your name, and ... in our own circumstances.

Sometimes your plans for us seem to make comedy of our plans for you. Too often, it feels like the only certainty is ... uncertainty.

We strive to understand the parade before us. The Lord parading into this chaos... on a donkey.

We strive to understand why the Lord needs each of us to mount up and join the parade of love.

Forgive us when we think we are too old, too young, too small, too large, too much on the inside, too much on the outside, or even ... too ordinary ... to be needed and used by you.

In this season, in all the uncertainties of our lives, be with us.

On this very day, help each of us to offer our gifts and talents in some way – small or large – to share the certainty of your blessed assurance, the certainty of your love.

In our parade this season, we pray to move deeper through the joy, apprehension, passion and despondence – to move forward in faith when it doesn't look like either the parade or destination we imagined.

In the uncertainty ahead, we your people, will trust in the certainty of your love and be a living testimony to resurrection.

Amen.

*By Rev. Ted Crass, President, The United Methodist Foundation of New England
Inspiration: Luke 19.28-40*

Want to get the Daily Prayer in your own email inbox?
Subscribe using this link:

<https://neumc-reg.brapp.com/Subscribe>

Women's Breakfast at BUMC

April 9, 2022, Saturday is our Women's Breakfast at 8:00 am that will be a grand way to end your week. Great food and great fun!!

Come and join us.

Men's Breakfast at BUMC

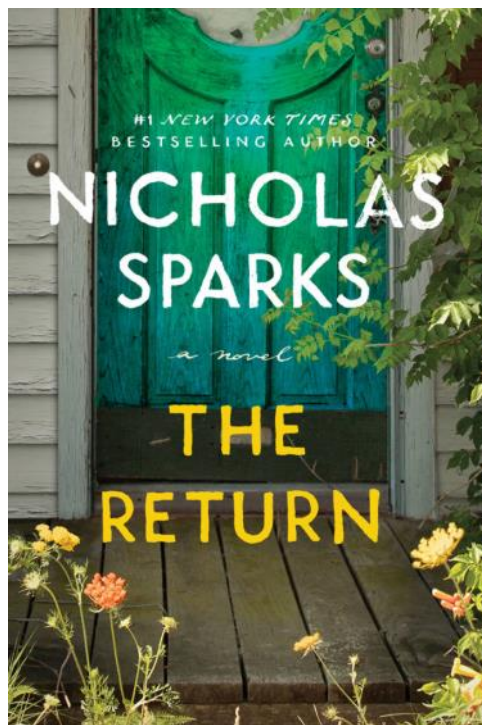
April 16, 2022 will be our Men's Breakfast. Come and join us for the best food in town and lively discussions.

The North Church Readers



Our fourth reading this season of North Church readers is *Salt to The Return* by Nicholas Sparks. The story of Trevor Benson, an injured Navy doctor and the two women he meets whose secrets will change the course of his life. It's a story of love, compassion and some mystery.

Discussion will be April 24, 2022

See Jackie if you have any questions.





Sun	Mon					Fri	Sat
						1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	
10:30 am Blended In- Person and ZOOM Online Worship	1 pm Knitting Ministry 					8am Women's Breakfast at BUMC	
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	
Palm Sunday 10:30 am Blended In- Person and ZOOM Online Worship				Maundy Thursday	Good Friday	8am Men's Breakfast at BUMC	
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	
Easter Sunday 10:30 am Blended In- Person and ZOOM Online Worship	1 pm Knitting Ministry 						
24	25	26	27	28	29	30	
10:30 am Blended In- Person and ZOOM Worship Book Discussion							

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.

**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.**



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!*