

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



# TIDINGS

Volume 23 issue 3

March 2023

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interest:

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## Protocol for Fully Re-opening

First, all dates and protocols are contingent on infection rates, and no newer, more dangerous variants not emerging. We will continue to ask unvaccinated folks to wear a mask regardless of what the church activity is.

Feb 26, 2023 We will be singing all hymns, but masked. The choir will be singing from the choir loft. We leave it to each of them to decide whether they will sing with masks or not. More windows will need to be opened to ensure good ventilation.

March 5, 2023 Communion will continue to be with individual cups, but with bread broken. The servers will wear masks and sanitize their hands before offering the elements.

Mar 12, 2023 Nothing new for this date. We will be carefully watching Covid positivity rates.

Mar 19, 2023 If positivity is below 5%, Congregation will be able to sing without masks. We will be seeking volunteers for coffee hour and ushers

Mar 26, 2023 We hope on this date to have two volunteers to be ushers so that we can take the offering in the traditional way.

April 2, 2023 We will resume children's time in the sanctuary after the anthem. So please bring us kids!!!!

April 9, 2023 Easter Sunday. At this time we will be mostly opened up. I will resume preaching from the floor of the sanctuary with a wireless microphone.

April 16, 2023, Coffee hour resumes!!!!

Other activities will begin after this date when appropriate, like potlucks, studies, in person meetings (many are already in person). Committee heads will make that call for their groups. Just as Chris will decide when Prism begins practicing etc.



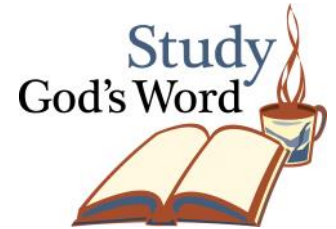
Don't forget to set your clocks ahead by one hour before you go to bed on Saturday, March 11 and make sure to join us in person or by zoom on time Sunday morning!

## Lenten Bible Study

Lenten Bible Study will be on Tuesday evenings at the United Methodist Church of Bolton beginning **February 28th** and ending on **April 4th**

Potluck at 6:00 pm

Study at 7:00 pm



The study will be looking at religion and Christianity in particular in the 21st century context, and how we understand what it means to be people of faith with real depth.

**Week One:** Religionless Christianity: no sense of transcendence

After reading the readings for the week reflect on these two ideas of Dietrich Bonhoeffer.

Bonhoeffer: Belief in omni-potent God is more an expression of psychological needs than of genuine transcendence. Is not peoples weakness (stupidity, forgetfulness, cowardice, vanity etc.) a greater danger than evil?

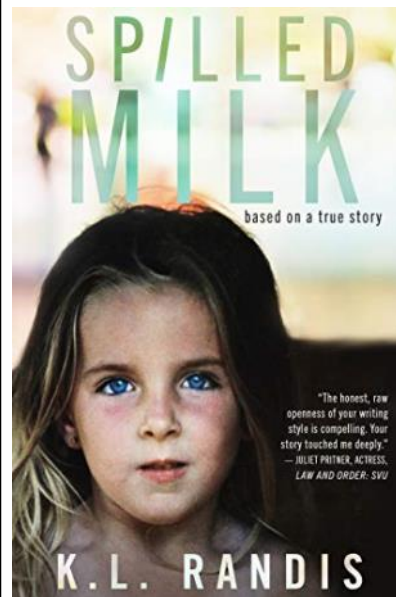
*(Continued on page 6)*

### 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](mailto:vlhadge@yahoo.com)



### The North Church

**Readers:** Our sixth book reading this season of North Church readers will be Spilled Milk by K.L. Randis.

Brooke Nolan is a battered child who makes an anonymous phone call to social services about the brutality in her home. When they jeopardize her safety, condemning her to keep her fathers secret, it's a glass of

spilled milk at the dinner table that forces her to speak out about the cruelty she's been hiding. Brook then battles a broken system that pushes to keep her father in the home. She risks using the support of family, coming to the realization that some people do not want to be saved.

**Discussion will be on March 19, 2023.**

**See Jan Miller if you have any questions.**

### 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**

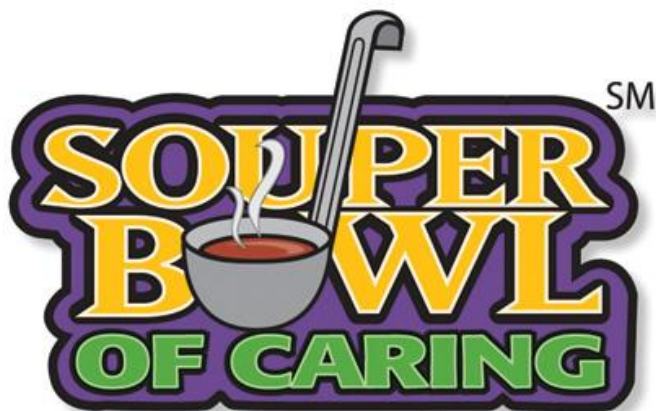
**Food donations can be dropped off at the Community Emergency Food Pantry, located at 460 Main St. in Manchester, CT Monday through Thursday 9am-4pm and Friday 9am-2pm (or call to schedule a time).**

**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)

## Souper Thank You!



**Thank you to everyone who donated canned goods and the freewill offering for Souperbowl Sunday foods.**

**\$883 was raised for MACC.**

**A special thank you to the MYF and helpers for making all the delicious goodies!**

## March Birthdays

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

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 March 2nd and 16th

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.



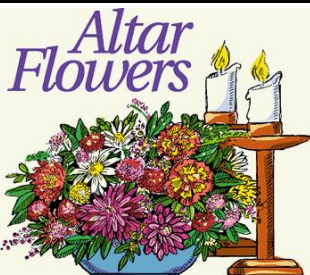
### \*REMINDER

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  
**May 1st**  
 @  
**7 pm**



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 Makayla Houle at 860-707-6895**

## 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](mailto:vlhadge@yahoo.com) or Heidi [wellnessandms@yahoo.com](mailto:wellnessandms@yahoo.com) for more details!



## Knitting Ministry

Our NUMC Knitting group's schedule has meetings held on Mondays from 1:00pm-2:30pm in the Memorial Room. We are back to in person meetings on 3/06, 3/20, 4/03, 4/17, 5/01, 5/19, 6/05, and 6/19. All are welcome! :)

The knitting ministry continues to stay busy. We've given out prayer shawls and lap blankets to NUMC members and mailed some little prayer squares to others. We've given 7 lap blankets to the John Dequattro Cancer Center-Manchester Hospital., and 44 hats and 26 scarves to Marlene for the Blessing Bags or MACC.

We really enjoy making things to share!

Our group is open to all with or without yarn skills. Contact: Paula Adamczyk  
[anthony.adamczyk@snet.net](mailto:anthony.adamczyk@snet.net) or  
Susan Derby [susanderby@cox.net](mailto:susanderby@cox.net)  
with questions.



## 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!*



Scripture Readings:

Isaiah 55:8-9

Job 11:71-12

Acts 17:24-28

**Week Two: Faith, Religion and the Lessons of Rock and Roll**

Here is a list of problems that we have the ability to solve, but lack the will:

HIV/Aids

Global Poverty

Global warming/Environment

Fuel/energy dependence

Here are some problems we have solved or made great strides in:

Apartheid

Civil Rights

Iron Curtain

Consider the role that popular music has played in forming opinions and public policy

Scripture readings (read the verses and see if you can find the music on youtube and listen):

Matthew 26:47-49 Pride, In the name of Love U-2

Ecclesiastes 3:1-13 Turn, Turn, Turn! - The Byrds

Ruth 1:8-17 Where You Lead I will Follow - Carole King

**Week Three: Consumer Christianity: a modern expression of an old desire**

Toqueville suggests that institutional equality leads to the next stratification- wealth. The world is no longer noble and peasant, but rich and poor. "One usually finds that love of money might eventually extinguish our spirit." The ideals of our society are seen through the lens of consumerism. Even church has become a product which is consumed on Sunday. Consumers of the religious experience have no deep connection to the faith community, or feel an obligation to be an integral part of the Christian experience which used to be described as Evangelism.

Scripture Readings:

Hebrews 10:24-25

Acts 2:42-47

Galatians 6:1-10

**Week Four: Religion as Ultimate Concern**

Paul Tillich argued that there is a danger in radicalizing Christianity. Christianity in its proper context has depth and dimension that exceeds our culture. Culture can be

limiting to the religious experience when it tries to be the experience to culture instead of culture bending to the Divine. Consider the following questions as you read the scripture lessons:

Is this passage literal and if so, how does this affect culture or reality?

Where have I experienced this passage being radicalized by segments of the church?

When I experience the truth of this passage in my life, do I ask "where God is in this?"

Scripture readings:

Ephesians 5:21-24

Romans 13:1-5

John 14:1-7

**Week Five: Rapid Social Change: how social contexts change the way engage our faith**

Dean R Kelley wrote in 1971 that in uncertain times, with social upheaval, people will gravitate towards the certainty of doctrine and dogma. Churches that offer answers to why "scary" things are happening, are sought out by people who are afraid deep down. They ignore the ugly rhetoric, or worse, justify it for their sense of comfort.

As you read the verse, try to think of three issues in modern society that some factions of Christianity have offered simplistic answers to, that have been harmful to the identity of the church.

Scripture readings:

Genesis 1

Romans 7:14-25

Isaiah 5:8-22

**Week Six: Holy Week: our walk to the cross with Jesus**

Can we walk where Jesus walked? Can we follow where he goes? This Holy Week, we reflect on the culmination of Jesus' earthly ministry that ends with his crucifixion. Holy week is about his triumphant entrance and his victory on the cross. Easter happens on Sunday, which is a new week, a new start,

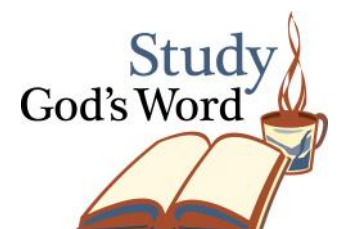
This week we sit with the heaviness of Christ's death, and the mourning of his mother and friends.

Bible Verses:

Matthew 14: 22-33

Luke 9:51-62

Matthew 27:27-37



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
						
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
10:30 am Blended In- Person and ZOOM Online Worship <b>MYF</b>	1 pm Knitting Ministry  	6 pm Potluck at BUMC 7 pm Lenten Study at BUMC				
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
10:30 am Blended In- Person and ZOOM Online Worship <b>MYF</b>		6 pm Potluck at BUMC 7 pm Lenten Study at BUMC				
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
10:30 am Blended In- Person and ZOOM Online Worship Book Discussion <b>MYF</b>	1 pm Knitting Ministry  	6 pm Potluck at BUMC 7 pm Lenten Study at BUMC				
26	27	28	29	30	31	
10:30 am Blended In- Person and ZOOM Worship <b>MYF</b>		6 pm Potluck at BUMC 7 pm Lenten Study at BUMC				

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.**

