



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

TIDINGS

Volume 24 issue 1

January 2024

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Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Isaiah 43:18-19 - *“Remember not the former things, nor consider the things of old. Behold, I am doing a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert.*

For many people in our world, community, and churches, 2023 was a difficult year filled with hardship, tragedy, and disappointments. Last year they began the New Year like everyone else, filled with hope that the year would bring new and better things to their lives, to our lives. It’s hard to shake off some disappointment, or to set aside and put our hardships in the past. The prophet, however, encourages us to “remember not” all the old things. In truth, he isn’t overly specific, he just says the things of the past. Isaiah says not to dwell on the past, and there is great wisdom in that. On the past we also remember the good times, the “salad days” of our youth, the triumphs, and victories. Dwelling on our glory days can make our current predicaments seem worse. Dwelling on the past can make us unappreciative of what is in front of us.

“Behold, I am doing a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?” My hope for you in the New Year is that you are able to see the new things God is doing in your life, and the world. God makes all things new; and that can be scary for us. Have faith, because God has a plan for your life, a plan for good, even if you can’t perceive right now. So, do your best to be grateful for the way God has blessed you, and have a very Happy New Year!

Grace and Peace,
Pastor Dave Martin

Holiday Gifts for the Village Kids

Thank you to everyone for the generous contributions of pajamas, underwear and socks for the children in the Village program. We received enough for a gift pack for each child with extras for the children in the Hartford Program. The staff was very appreciative.



Upcoming Events: More Details to come!!! :)

- February 12: Pancake Potluck
- February 14: Ash Wednesday Service
6pm at NUMC
- March 24: Palm Sunday Service
- March 25: Upper Room Meal
- March 29: Good Friday Service 7pm
- March 31: Easter Sunday

Liturgists Needed

We are open and worshipping together again! We are seeking liturgists to share the Word each Sunday. Please consider joining this meaningful ministry. Sign up in the Memorial Room.



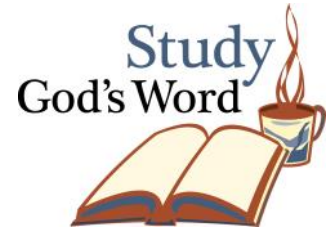
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Counters Needed

As we work our way back to normal, I am asking for volunteers to become counters. New counters or returning counters are wanted.

The job is usually straightforward and is a great way to serve North Church. Please talk to Jackie Abbott or email me at jabbott814@aol.com if you are able to serve.

Thank you,
Jackie Abbott, Financial Secretary



Bible Study

Bible Study will be on Tuesday evenings at the United Methodist Church of Bolton
Potluck at 6:00 pm
Study at 7:00 pm

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



Homelessness Resources This Winter

We've wrapped up another calendar year and recently completed our first month of the Cold Weather Shelter. It's no surprise that our shelter quickly filled to capacity, and our current numbers show we faced an approximate 25% increase in homelessness in 2023 compared to 2022.

If you, someone you know, or someone you encounter is homeless or facing immediate homelessness, please have them reach out to 211 for immediate help locating an available shelter or warming center. They can also reach out to 860-647-8003 ext. 131, and I will assist them in navigating the complexities of understanding their options.

-Timothy Bohr
MACC Community Outreach and Emergency Services Manager

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)

Community Threads THRIFT SHOPPE

1ST ANNUAL FILL A BAG SALE

SHOP TIL' YOU DROP JANUARY 19TH-27TH

Fill a white bag provided to you, with our stylish and trendy clothes, purses, belts and hats, for \$7.00 a bag "Shop till you drop!"

(Baby clothes & jewelry excluded)

1st Annual Fill A Bag Sale

Starting January 19th, 2024, MACC's Community Threads Thrift Shoppe will start a new tradition. To celebrate our 51st year of service, we are having a Fill A Bag Sale.

Come into Community Threads Thrift Shoppe, take a white bag (supplied for you at the register), and SHOP TIL' YOU DROP!

Each bag full is only \$7.00!

Unbelievable right? Some exclusions do apply; baby clothes from newborn to 18 months and jewelry are not included in the sale! Come on in and take part in our celebration!

Sale ends January 27th, 2024

January Birthdays

1st Jason Starkweather

3rd Carl Lepack

6th Diana Custer

7th Emily Fitzgerald

Nathan Fitzgerald

8th Charlene Sullivan

9th Cindy Lepack

23rd Ron Starkweather

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

January 11th and 25th

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 Makayla Houle at 860-707-6895**

Overcoming MS - Manchester, CT Circle

This MS support group focuses on living well with MS using the Overcoming MS program that includes diet and lifestyle changes in addition to medications. This group is open to people with MS and their care partners.

The group typically meets on the third Monday of the month at 5:30pm and alternates between Zoom meetings and face to face meetings at local restaurants or parks.

Please reach out via email to Vickie Hadge at vlhadge@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 enjoy time for fellowship as we knit and crochet.

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



"The Music here at NUMC is such a joy and inspiration. Thank you to all who come together to make it possible."

-Caleb Cadman



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!



LESSONS in CHEMISTRY



Bonnie Garmus

NORTH CHURCH READERS

Our next book is titled "The Lessons in Chemistry" by Bonnie Garmus. Chemist Elizabeth Zott is not your average woman. In fact, Elizabeth Zott would be the first to point out that there is no such thing as an average woman. But it's the early 1960s and her all-male team at Hastings Research Institute takes a very unscientific view of equality. Except for one: Calvin Evans; the lonely, brilliant, Nobel-prize nominated grudge-holder who falls in love with—of all things—her mind. True chemistry results.

But like science, life is unpredictable. Which is why a few years later Elizabeth Zott finds herself not only a single mother, but the reluctant star of America's most beloved cooking show *Supper at Six*. Elizabeth's unusual approach to cooking ("combine one tablespoon acetic acid with a pinch of sodium chloride") proves revolutionary. But as her following grows, not everyone is happy. Because as it turns out, Elizabeth Zott isn't just teaching women to cook. She's daring them to change the status quo.

Laugh-out-loud funny, shrewdly observant, and studded with a dazzling cast of supporting characters, *Lessons in Chemistry* is as original and vibrant as its protagonist.

Discussion will be in the library after worship.

Music Ministry Minute

Dear North Church Family,










As we look forward to a fresh new year in our music ministry I wanted to thank all those who, through hours and hours of dedication and hard work, bring lovely music into our Sanctuary each Sunday morning. For many, music helps the mind open up to experiencing worship. Our choir facilitates this journey in our faith. We have been through so much together, especially during the past three years. Many churches have had to shutter their music ministries for lack of support and interest in the difficult task of rebuilding. During covid, the necessity of using technology rather than people made us more isolated and willing to accept a recording over a human voice. Like the idiom 'the right hand giveth while the left hand taketh away', we have been blessed with more informational wealth at our fingertips than ever before in human history, but we risk losing our community and our sense of togetherness if we become simply spectators in our own lives.



January is usually the time of resolutions and challenges. 'Let's improve ourselves; let's lose weight, learn a language', etc. I would offer up the challenge, 'let's make music!' Let's bring our families back to church and let's participate in worship again! I realize that not everyone can commit to joining the choir, but if you can shake a stick you can probably play the tambourine! Let us hear your voices in what you wish to hear again. Bring those song suggestions. Let us in the choir loft be reminded that you are invested with us in the music at North Church. We are your music ministers; your servants- and in order to serve you best we would love to hear from each of you!

And now for our usual plug: we rehearse from 7 to 8:30P on Wednesdays and are in need of singers, instrumentalists, you name it!

Thanks for listening!!!

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
	Happy New Year!		7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal 			
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
10:30 am Blended In-Person and ZOOM Online Worship			7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal 			
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
10:30 am In-Person and ZOOM Online Worship	1 pm Knitting Ministry 		7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal 			
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
10:30 am Blended In-Person and ZOOM Online Worship 11:30 North Church Readers			7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal 			
28	29	30	31			
10:30 am Blended In-Person and ZOOM Worship			7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal 			

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.**

