

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



# TIDINGS

Volume 22 issue 2

February 2022

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**Office Hours**

Pastor Dave

**Monday & Tuesday**

8:00-5:00ish

Office Manger Makayla

**Monday & Thursday**

9:00-12:00



Greetings Brothers and Sisters!

I've been thinking a lot lately about the passage from Matthew 10:16 *"Behold, I send you forth as sheep in the midst of wolves; be ye therefore wise as serpent...."* This verse is seldom read aloud in "lectionary based" churches like ours. It appears only as an optional addendum to another reading, which many ministers of the gospel leave out because the words make them uncomfortable. I think of this verse whenever I read of the unjust steward from Luke 16:8 *"The master commended the dishonest manager because he had acted shrewdly. For the people of this world are more shrewd in dealing with their own kind than are the people of the light."*

I think when we examine what it means to live as a Christian in the post-modern world, it is important that our Christian witness (the evidence of transformational work the Spirit has done in our lives) should reflect ethical, thoughtful, empathetic and responsible behaviors. Does that mean I cannot be shrewd? Does that mean I cannot take decisive action with assertive resolve in ways that benefit me, my family and my church? I am a believer in middle way. So much of our culture asks us to skew to the extremes. There are bad Christian witnesses along the entire spectrum of Christianity. Some might read the above Bible passages and see them as an excuse to be unethical in business or life in general. They defend their actions as "shrewd." They conveniently leave out the rest of that verse (just as I did) which reads, *"and harmless as doves."* Or they might say that *Jesus commended the unjust steward. But, the conveniently leave out Jesus' continued commentary in which he says, "Whoever is faithful in a very little is faithful also in much; and whoever is dishonest in a very little is dishonest also in much. If then you have not been faithful with the dishonest wealth, who will entrust to you the true riches?"*

Jesus calls us to faithful service. Faithfulness means we trust that if we do the right thing, God will be pleased with what we do, and trust us further with more. But who would ever trust that unjust servant again? What employer would hire them and give them a position of responsibility in the future? Christians must make sound decisions in life, but we cannot ignore ethics, faith, and especially our Christian witness. Wise as serpents but harmless as doves; we won't be taken advantage of, but we also don't take advantage of others. Be faithful with what has been given to us, and trust that God will bless it further.

*Pastor David J. Martin*

## Blended and ZOOM In February

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



***Thank you, Thank you!***

Greetings, North Church! I just wished to share my delighted surprise at your kindness and thoughtfulness in sending me a Christmas gift this year! It has been so hard not seeing and socializing with you on Sunday mornings. I have felt, like so many others, isolated from you all- even though I know our community is still here, beyond this pandemic veil. To be so affirmed at Christmas time with a gift from you all was a wonderful and uplifting experience! I can never say over enough how blessed and fortunate I feel to be a part of your loving and caring church family. When God led me to your doorstep all those years ago it was one of the happiest circumstances in my life. Thank you again for being who you are!

With much love,  
Christine

**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 16<sup>th</sup>, 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](mailto: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**

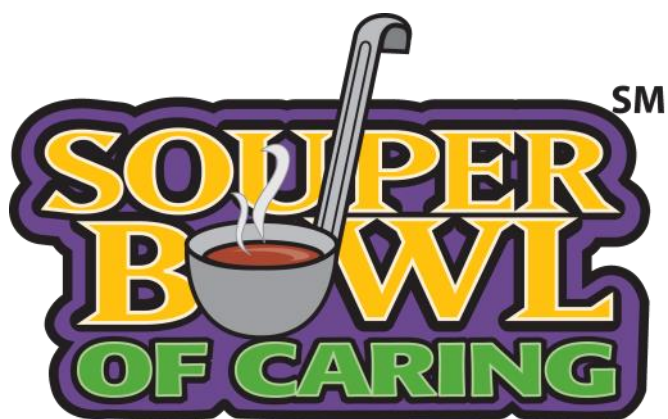
**Food donations can be dropped off at the Community Emergency Food Pantry, located at 460 Main St. in Manchester, CT Monday through Thursday 9am-4pm and Friday 9am-2pm (or call to schedule a time).**

**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)



## DRIVE-THRU SOUPERBOWL SALE!

MACC Charities is tackling hunger one bowl of soup at a time! February 12th 10am – 2pm, Chef Ferdinand is creating **Pasta e Fagioli** (32 oz. @ \$15.00 each) or **Turkey Taco Soup w/ Chips** (32 OZ @ \$20.00 each). Pre-order ahead w/ Patti @

PThurlow@macc-ct.org, 860-647-8003 ex. 12 (Cash or Check).

Can't make it? Donate @ <https://macc-ct.org/donate-now/>

## February Birthdays

8th Sarah Turley

11th Doris Timbrell

14th Adam Lenhardt

18th Jonathan Cadman

19th Tim LePore

21st Nicholas Lenhardt

25th Dianne LePore

26th Dave Harris

*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**

**February 3rd and 17th**

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](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 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](mailto:anthony.adamecyk@snet.net) or Susan Derby [susanderby@cox.net](mailto: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.

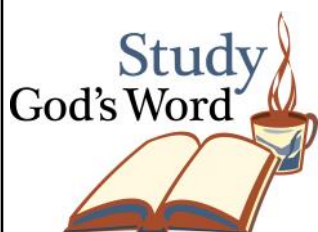
Join Zoom Meeting

<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!*





Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
						
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
10:30 am Blended In- Person and ZOOM Online Worship	1 pm Knitting Ministry  					
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
10:30 am Blended In- Person and ZOOM Online Worship		Tidings Submission Deadline				
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
10:30 am Blended In- Person and ZOOM Online Worship	1 pm Knitting Ministry  					
27	28					
10:30 am Blended In- Person and ZOOM Online Worship						

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](mailto: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!*