



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

# TIDINGS

Volume 24 issue 3

March 2024

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Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Have you ever felt like we sometimes just move through life going from one task to the next, never giving much thought to the significance of a moment? I know when I get overworked, or my schedule gets filled beyond my capacity to handle everything with the kind attention these things deserve, I kind of go on autopilot. A few of the things I am trying to do during lent is to 1) be kinder to myself. I do that by scheduling my patient load less rigorously (when possible) on three afternoons a week so I can go to the gym to exercise. 2) I am trying to eat healthier during lent. That means more fruits and vegetables and less junk food. And the third thing is I am seeking out holy moments. Holy moments can be found in unexpected places and at unexpected times. Holy moments are when you open yourself up to God, making yourself completely available to the moving of the Spirit and set aside self interest and preference. That's not an easy thing to do, and for me, it is a work in progress. I know myself, I am prone to overschedule and over function. I am also prideful and like having my way. So, when God's way interferes or contradicts my way, it sometimes leads me to being withdrawn from my spiritual life.

During the remainder of the Lenten season, and hopefully beyond, I hope you will join me in seeking holy moments. Work through the uncomfortable and inconvenient, and I know that on the other side, you will find spiritual growth and a growing sense of peace.

*"Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness. And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing." James 1:2-4*

Grace and Peace,  
Pastor Dave Martin

Don't Be Late On  
March 10th!



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

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.



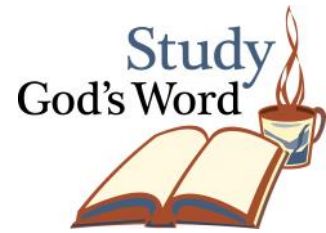
10 \$ 20 \$ 30 \$ 40 \$

## 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](mailto: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](mailto: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)



Easter Flowers

If you would like to order flowers for the sanctuary this Easter Season, please fill out the form below and leave it in Church Office mailbox in the Narthex, give to Makayla Houle or mail directly to North Church at: North United Methodist Church – Easter Flowers 300 Parker St, Manchester, CT 06040

**Please do not put orders in the collection plate-Thank you**

This year the flower cost is \$16.00 per plant.

*Please include payment with your order.*

Make checks payable to NUMC with memo note: Easter Flowers

**DEADLINE FOR ORDERING ~ SUNDAY, March 3**

The flowers will decorate the chancel for Easter Sunday Service.  
If you have any questions, please call Makayla at 860-649-3696 or  
northchurch@snet.net.



## 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 14th, April 4th and 18th**

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.

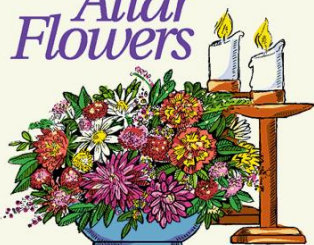
*Anyone in need of a name tag, please note it on the back of your attendance slip on Sunday morning and one will be made for you.*

### 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 on 3/04, 3/18, 4/01, 4/15, 5/06, 5/20, 6/03, 6/17.

We enjoy time for fellowship as we knit and crochet. If the weather is bad or too cold we will meet via Zoom and members will be notified of the change.

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.



## 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!*



71 Glory Be To The Father

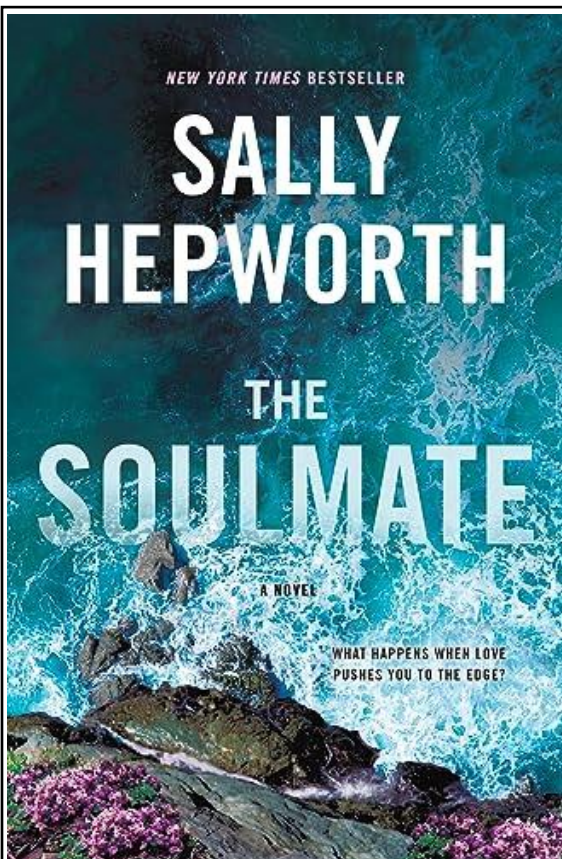
### Making Music Together

Come join our choir and/or praise band! We rehearse from 7 to 8:30P on Wednesdays and welcome more singers, instrumentalists, you name it! It is fun and fulfilling making music together, as well as a real sense of community and worship on our Wednesday evenings.

WORDS: Lesser Evangelists, 3rd-4th cent. GREATEST







## NORTH CHURCH READERS










Our next book selection will be led by Lorrie Rowe and is scheduled for **Sunday, March 17 after church.** Books are available in a marked section of the reference room of Mary Cheney library. We will be discussing *The Soulmate* by Sally Hepworth. This book is a psychological thriller. Picture a lovely cottage on a cliff with walking paths and beautiful flowers. It's Gabe and Pippa Gerard's dream home in a sleepy town. But the tall cliffs have a sinister secret: they are a popular spot for people to end their lives. Gabe in recent months has talked several people off the ledge, until one day, he doesn't. Pippa discovers Gabe knew the victim and has many unanswered questions. Their happy marriage begins to crack under this pressure, and deep and dark secrets start to unravel...

## New Keyboard

You are likely aware by now, whether by the letter that was sent out or by seeing and hearing it, that we have purchased a new keyboard. In the decade that we have babied along the old one we kept an eye out for what was out there that would be a suitable replacement. We were fortunate to stumble upon an excellent opportunity to check out this instrument and compare it to others without the long drives that had been discouraging pursuit of a new instrument to this point. It was also an opportunity for significant savings on the cost, but with a very short time window to take advantage of it. In the few weeks we have had it the music that it has produced has been beautiful in tone and timbre as well as far more dynamic in volume, responding to the touch of the musician. It is lovely to listen to and sing along with. If you haven't heard it yet, I strongly encourage doing so. Thank you to those who have already generously contributed! We will continue raising funds to offset the cost of this excellent new instrument for a few more weeks and welcome contributions in support of our wonderful music ministry.



*Thank you!*

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

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.**

