



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

TIDINGS

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Greetings family of Christ!

Over the summer I have been planning out some structured activities for the continued Reawakening work we are doing in the church. I will be starting with three potlucks (because it's my favorite!! dates TBA) where I will share some of the work in my doctoral research regarding church renewal. The focus is on understanding our current context, and why religion in America and Europe has been on the decline for the last 50+ years. I hope to have great discussions about theological shifts (not as boring as you might think), rapid social change and its effect on theology, and of course what works now, and what doesn't (aka "best practices") This is a great opportunity for us to ask important questions about the purpose and meaning of church, and why reawakening is so very important...not for us, but for our community.

I cannot tell you what our communal purpose is. I cannot decide alone for the church the moral, religious and social vision for renewing and reinvigorating the ministry. That work, and that vision belongs to you the people of North Church. What I do know is that if the leadership and the pews have a passion and a vision for ministry, God will honor it. I trust with all my heart that the Holy Spirit will be with us on the journey, but you can't travel that journey from your couch. You have to be present. Be present!

Grace and Peace,

Pastor David J Martin

Reconciling Ministries Welcoming Committee



Following a year of education and discernment an All Church Conference was held on September 18, 2016, at which time North Church voted unanimously to become a Reconciling Congregation and to adopt the following Statement of Welcome which is displayed in a framed poster in the Memorial Room:

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.

Since that time NUMC has sought ways to support the LGBTQ+ community with funds and by spreading the word that we welcome members of the LGBTQ+ community to fully participate in the life of our church. Since 2018 we have had an annual booth at Hartford Pride Fest which will be held this year on Saturday, September 14th from 12-6 pm. Volunteers are needed for set-up, take down and two hour shifts staffing the booth. It's a great opportunity to share our faith and talk with folks about God's love and acceptance. We'd love to have you join us!

To volunteer or ask questions contact lindavandine@gmail.com



Music Ministry Minute

Hi all. As the summer comes to a close we are planning a re-union focused service to remind ourselves post Covid craziness that we had and still have a broader church community who have, for a wide variety of reasons, stopped worshipping communally on Sunday mornings at North Church. Although I cannot speak from the standpoint of a church elder or pastor, my experience as a music director causes me sadness at the lost potential I see when communities no longer engage in this 'very present' form of human interaction. Yes, Facebook, tweets and annual Family Holiday Letters are great ways to keep abreast of what is happening in each others' lives but; just like listening to a recording of a song isn't the same as bringing that song to life learning to sing it with friends, there is something missing- be it a well timed hug, a shared laugh or supportive smile that brightens our lives and reminds us that the human condition is not meant to be solitary but shared with those we love.

The world is an unsettled place, and we are unsettled as a result. Coupled with the years of isolation caused by the pandemic, many of us have added stress, anxiety, isolation and loneliness to the 'Weight of the World' charm bracelet we each wear. We discover that the more isolated we become, the more difficult it becomes to embrace humanity again. It's a vicious cycle which is only compounded by the availability of social networking and the appeal of internet anonymity.

For those of us who remember when 'face time' didn't involve a webcam and phones were not only connected to our walls but to each other- we can appreciate the wonders and gifts offered by new technology (many of which we could never have imagined possible) but we can also appreciate the simplicity of finding our place among family and friends each Sunday morning and being reminded by others just like us that we are all God's children and that we are never truly alone.

Many of us voice concern over the world our kids and grandkids are inheriting. We note how stressful it is to be young in a world filled with negative and downright scary news. I recall when 9/11 occurred, almost a quarter of a century ago. It was a Tuesday morning. My youth choir met on Wednesday evening. I had almost every child in attendance that evening. The rehearsal that night didn't consist of drilling notes or training ears. That night these children from grade 3 to high school asked questions, voiced their fears and comforted each other. It was a scary world for these beautiful kids, and God had blessed our church with the ability to be a safe place for them to be around others like them and know that they weren't ever alone.

To me, this is the essence of what a church is. Without programs in place before they are needed we cannot accomplish what Jesus asked of us; to love our neighbor. Without people; the fuel that powers ingenuity and inspiration, we don't have the programs to put in place. As we look around us on this Reunion Sunday- take note of those adults you knew as kids here and try to see the lovely tapestry where your life and theirs intersected. We have all inspired and changed one another and God is steadfast in affording every one of us the opportunity to continue to do so!

I shall end this message with my usual plug for joining the choir. On Reunion Sunday we will be singing a piece called 'Order My Steps' by Glenn Burleigh. This gorgeous song, found in the African American Heritage Hymnal, was written by Burleigh in 1991. He attributes his inspiration to watching the dance moves of the youth on the St. Agnus Drill Team (I suggest you research 'step teams' for a look at this fascinating form of artistic, cultural and spiritual expression). I find the verse both inspirational and a challenge to all of us: 'Order my steps in Your Word, Dear Lord. Please, order my steps in Your Word'.

As always, it continues to be my honor to serve as
your Director of Music here at North Church,
Christine Collins



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

The **Community Outreach and Emergency Services** provides weekly showers and laundry availability to Manchester unsheltered residents.
Wednesday: Men’s Showers(10:00 A.M. – 12:30pm)
Thursday: Women’s Showers(10:00 A.M. – 12:30pm)
Showers are limited to **15 minutes** and are on a first come first serve basis. Towels, soap, shampoo, shaving products provided.
The **last shower** is at **12:15 pm**.

Laundry is by **appointment only**. Laundry is limited to **1 load per appointment**. Laundry detergent will be provided.

For any other Outreach Emergency needs or to make an appointment, please call **860-647-8003 x 131**

For information on **Volunteering**
Please call **860-647-8003 x 112**

Food Donations can be dropped off at the Community Emergency Food Pantry, located at 460 Main St. in Manchester, CT

Please only drop off during donation hours (or call to schedule a time).

Drop off donation hours are:
Monday: 9:00 am – 3:00 pm
Tuesday: 9:00 am – 5:00 pm
Wednesday: 9:00 am – 1:30 pm
Thursday: 9:00 am – 5:00 pm
Friday: 9:00 am – 2:00 pm

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

A list of items that are always in need can be found at <https://macc-ct.org>

All products must be unopened and within expiration dates.



Add Meaning to Your Worship Experience

Looking for ways to add more meaning to your worship experience? Check out all these opportunities to serve waiting for YOU!

Liturgist: Help deliver the Word! Read some scripture and a prayer or two. Not a public speaker, then how about: ↪

Usher: Help all feel welcome and ready for worship. Greet new folks and regulars, pass out the bulletins, collect the offering, and help with communion. Prefer to stay focused on the service, then how about: ↪

Coffee Fellowship: Add to our sense of community. Get the coffee and tea water ready and provide a few snacks for the post service get together. Don't want to deal with food, then how about becoming a: ↪

Zoom Host or Sound Board Tech: Help our outreach. Once every few weeks you start and facilitate Zoom church by providing a worship experience for those unable to leave home. (You can even host from the comfort of your home!) Keep the service running smoothly by setting up and monitoring the sound board. Free Training and Support! Not tech savvy, then how about: ↪

Seasonal Events: Beautify the church. Assist at various times throughout the year by helping decorate the chancel area. Not your thing, then how about: ↪

Flowers for the Altar: If you've got a green thumb and want to enhance the altar area consider bringing in some flowers.

We'd love to have you help out and add meaning to your worship experience. If you've never tried one of these things we invite you to try something new among your friends at North Church.

September Birthdays

2nd Linda Gates
 4th Steve Hadge
 5th Deb Tedford
 6th Chris Larson
 8th Karen Cadman
 9th Linda VanDine
 18th Bob Pelletier
 26th John Fitzgerald
 29th Jackie Abbott
 30th Stephanie Brew

Birthday Blessings to Everyone!



Ad Council Meeting



TBD

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: we have drums, guitar, bass, trombone, flute, etc, you name it, but need **you**, as sometimes we have to pick and choose with limited people. It is fun and fulfilling making music together, as well as a real sense of community and worship on our Wednesday evenings.



NORTH UMC will host BLOOD DRIVES

September 12th, 26th and 28th

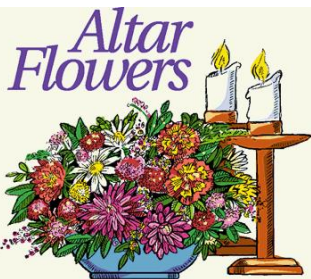
DONORS URGENTLY NEEDED. CALL 1-800-GIVE LIFE (1-800-448-3543) to schedule an appointment.

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.



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**

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!



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 groups 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

The Knitting Ministry is keeping busy this summer and we're enjoying the blessing of the AC cooled space at NUMC.

We crochet and knit prayers shawls, hats and scarves for our MACC friends, lap blankets for the John A. DeQuattro Cancer Center and baby blankets, etc. for the Family Birthing Center at the Manchester Memorial Hospital. Our prayer squares are shared in person and/or mailed to those dealing with little or big struggles in life. Sometimes knowing that others are thinking about you or praying for you makes all the difference in the world. Our group is open to all with or without yarn skills.

Please join us on the 1st and 3rd Monday of each month:
1:00- 2:30 PM at NUMC.

Contact: Paula Adameczyk anthony.adameczyk@snet.net
or Susan Derby susanderby@cox.net with questions.



Prayer Corner

Luke 11:1 *“When he finished one of his disciples said to him, ‘Lord, teach us to pray ...’”*

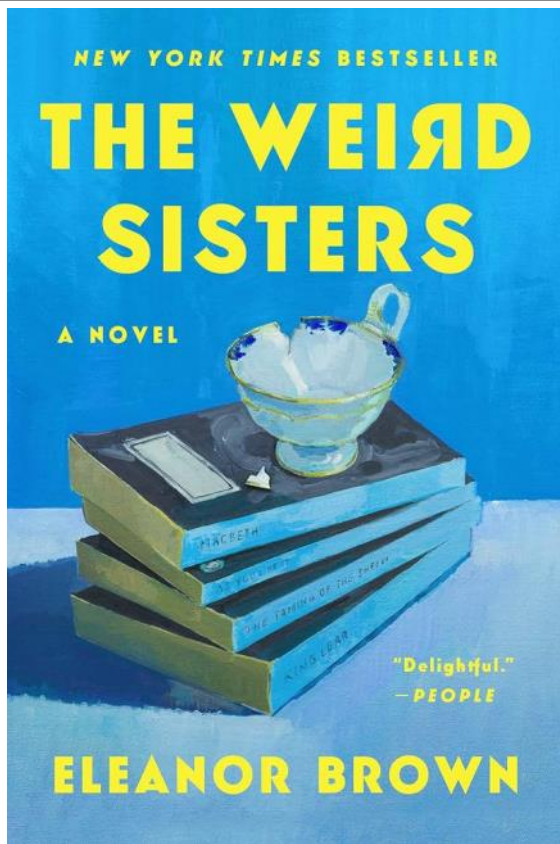
What follows is Jesus giving His disciples the prayer that begins “Our Father ...,” but that is just the beginning of the lesson. There is so much more to it! As you read through the gospels, you can see Jesus praying on numerous occasions, out loud and silently. Jesus didn’t just teach them *how to pray* but also *He taught them to pray, by modeling that regularly. He prayed on mountain tops and at Lazarus’ tomb and in the Upper Room and while He was dying on the cross.*

My intention for this series is for us to help each other to pray. Let’s share how we pray, and how God has answered our prayers. Let’s inspire each other, so our prayer time is interesting to us and not a chore. May it be more like a couple young friends sitting on a bed talking at a sleepover, like old friends walking through the woods going from one topic to another, like dear friends sorting things out over coffee.

I have so many thoughts I want to share with you, and you have so much to teach me! I’m really trying to keep this short, but it’s such a vast topic and so important for each of us and all of us together! So, this month I have one suggestion for something to try: have you ever spent time praying on your knees? I find it helps me focus and quiet distractions, and when my mind does wander, my position helps me to draw myself back to what I want to be doing. How about you? Talk to me about your prayer time! I’m really interested!

*Peace,
Barbie Turley*

North Church Readers

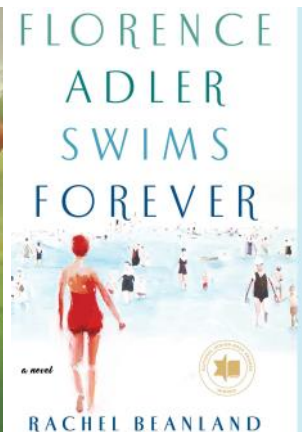
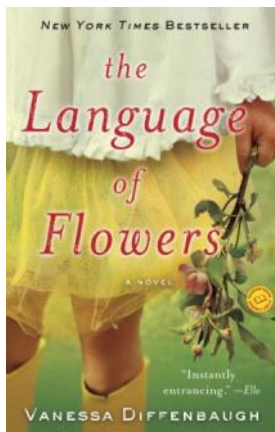
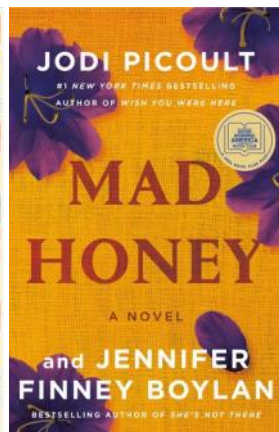
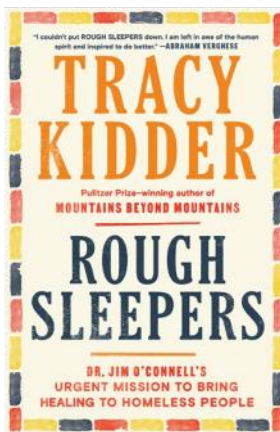
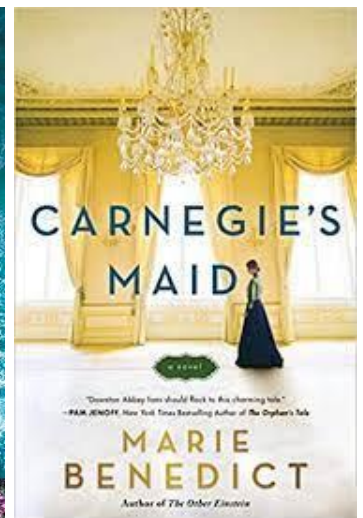
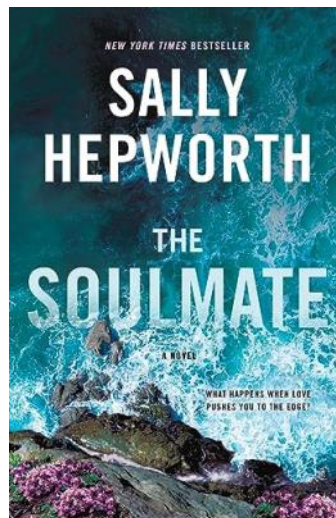















Attention North Church Readers: Our next book selection will be led by Judy Starkweather and is scheduled for Sunday, September 15 after church. Books are available in a marked section of the reference room of Mary Cheney library. We will be discussing *The Weird Sisters* by *Eleanor Brown*. Three sisters, named after Shakespearean heroines by their father, have returned to their childhood home because of their mother's recent cancer diagnosis, thus reuniting the eccentric Andreas family. For them books are a passion (*there is no problem a library card can't solve*) and TV is something other people watch. Their father is a professor of Shakespeare who speaks almost exclusively in verse.

The sisters have a hard time communicating with their parents and their lovers, but especially with one another. What can the shy homebody eldest sister, the fast-living middle child, and the bohemian youngest sibling have in common? They are home to lick their wounds and bury their secrets. Not one of them has found life to be what was expected; and now, faced with their parents' frailty and their own personal disappointments, not even a book can solve what ails them.

The North Church Readers is a group open to men and women at North who like to read and meet together monthly to discuss a book selected in advance by group members. Some are fiction, some non fiction, some serious, some more light-hearted. A different member leads discussion each month. It is great fun to discuss the huge variety of topics that arise. Book selections are available each month at the Mary Cheney library. Meetings are held at church the third Sunday of the month following morning worship. Everyone is welcome to join in!

Some recent books we have read:



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
10:30 am Blended In-Person and ZOOM Online Worship	1 pm Knitting Ministry 		7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal 			
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
REUNION!!! 10:30 am Blended In-Person and ZOOM Online Worship followed by a Picnic Under the Tent			7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal 			Hartford Pride Fest 12-6pm 
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
10:30 am In-Person and ZOOM Online Worship 11:30 North Church Readers	1 pm Knitting Ministry 		7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal 			
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
10:30 am Blended In-Person and ZOOM Online Worship			7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal 			
29	30	  SEPTEMBER 				
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
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,
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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!*