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

TIDINGS

Volume 26 issue 11 November 2026

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Laity Sunday Message from Vickie Hadge

On laity Sunday we celebrate the ministry, leadership, and service of everyday lay Christians. Like you and me. I kind of love that. It is also a really busy time of year. We are heading into the holidays and they are coming quickly! While I was reading the scriptures and thinking about laity Sunday, I was also thinking about Thanksgiving and Christmas. They are typically times when families and friends gather for big meals. In our family everyone contributes to the meal. Everyone brings something. Someone brings the rolls, someone brings dessert, someone brings the potatoes, and of course we provide the vegan food! Everyone has a specialty. Something they are good at. And it isn't always cooking because not everyone can cook. Sometimes it's choosing a nice bottle of wine for the meal or providing a center piece for the table. Many hands make light work, and everyone contributes to making the day special. It is a way to show love for one another and contribute to the success of the festivities, the feast, and the celebration.

In the Thessalonians reading today. Paul, Silas, and Timothy are writing to the young church and expressing their gratitude for the members of this fledgling church and all they do. The early church had some serious challenges. There were intense internal divisions, cultural and religious tensions between Jewish and Gentile believers, moral challenges, and persecution. They were struggling and in Thessalonians we see acknowledgment and gratitude for the hard work being done. In the third verse they say: "We remember before our God and Father your work produced by faith, your labor prompted by love, and your endurance inspired by hope in our Lord Jesus Christ." The belief in grace and love and something better in the future. Paul, Silas and Timothy know that these lay members were all contributing to the future of the church despite the challenges. I imagine the early members of the church contributing in many ways from hosting congregations in their homes, cooking and providing hospitality while they were in their homes, contributing financially, making tents, sharing the message, and supporting one another. Paul often referred to the members of the early church as his 'fellow workers.' He knew there was lots of work to be done, and many hands would be needed in many ways.

The laity of this congregation also contributes in many ways. We all have gifts that we use to contribute to the overall good of the church. We all have something to add that helps to continue the mission of North church. In our membership vows, we declare ourselves to be

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MACC BLESSING BAGS

It is that time of year when we start collecting items for Blessing Bags for MACC. As in the past, we will need items for male and female adults.
Suggestions: new, unwashed socks, gloves, hats, toothbrush, toothpaste, face cream, nail clippers, scarves, shampoo, lotion, body wash, deodorant, pens, memo pads, gum, candy, snack items, and any other items you can find that an adult might appreciate. (Please nothing with alcohol like mouthwash or hand sanitizer.)

We will be collecting items until December 6th.

Please place your donations in the box in the Memorial Room.

Blessing bags will be filled on Wednesday December 9th at 10:00am at NUMC.

Please reach out to Judy Galligan with any questions.
Judy Galligan: 860-646-0454

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followers of Jesus Christ and promise to uphold His church by our PRAYERS, our PRESENCE, our GIFTS, our SERVICE, and our WITNESS. Each of us has something to contribute in some way. Following Paul, Silas, and Timothy's lead, I would like to express my gratitude to you, my fellow workers and celebrate you a bit this morning because you are all quite amazing!

We support our LGBTQ+ brothers and sisters by being a reconciling ministries church by participating in local events, supporting the reconciling ministries network, and declaring that everyone belongs here. Thank you, Linda, for leading this committee and everyone that participates. So much gratitude for this.

We create MACC blessing bags at Christmas time containing personal care items, and daily essentials for individuals and families experiencing homelessness or severe need. Thank you, Judy, for spearheading this effort at North and everyone that contributes. So much gratitude for this.

We participate in Rise Against Hunger where we partner with South UMC to help fund and pack over 10,000 lifesaving meals in one day. I encourage you to go to the South United Methodist church website to see a recap of the day. It is really quite special. Thank you, Karen and Caleb, for organizing this every year and everyone that contributes and participates. So much gratitude for this.

Pauline's stock pot at our sister church at Warehouse point is a food pantry and soup kitchen where they help provide essentials and a warm meal for clients in a non-judgmental and welcoming way. Marc and the entire crew at Wesley, we have so much gratitude for this.

We provide Christmas gifts to the children attending the village program that shares space here at North church. This program serves children and families with behavioral health, mental health wellness programs, parenting education, early childhood care, and family support services. Thank you Linda for organizing this to help these kids have a good Christmas and to everyone that contributes. So much gratitude for this.

The knitting ministry that provides not only comfort for members of our congregation but also prayer shawls, hats and scarves for MACC, lap blankets for the cancer center and baby blankets, for the birthing center at Manchester Memorial Hospital. Thank you Paula and Sue for leading the group and all who participate. So much gratitude for this.

The tech crew that hosts Zoom and runs the sound system. Our ministry is able to reach members of our faith community that are unable to attend in person due to illness, distance, or other reasons. If our online services reach just one person you have made a difference. So much gratitude for this.

Our church has been involved with MISAC - Manchester Interfaith Social Action Committee since it was formed in 1967. It is nonprofit organization that provides moderate-income housing. We still have members of this congregation that work with them. So much gratitude for this.

I would also like to acknowledge all the lay people that share their gifts in making North church a place where we share the message of love and hope with the world. Each and every one of you contributes toward the ministry of this church. It is in all the details. The ushers, the liturgist, the communion bread, the coffee fellowship, those that keep our building clean, those that maintain the building and grounds, those that maintain the website and social media presence, those that provide alter flowers and chancel decorations, those that update the sign out front, those that contribute financially and maintain our financial records, those that give rides so people can participate in services and events, all the committee members, and the wonderful music ministry that includes the choir and musicians led but our amazing Chris.

There are too many to mention but I want you to know that you are all amazing. So much gratitude for this and I thank you. Much like the early church, we live in challenging times no doubt. Our world is struggling in so many ways. There are lots of valleys for sure. But with faith, grace, love and the gifts we all have, we can get through these valleys. We all have something we can share to help. The prayer of illumination from today encourages us to '*lead our actions through your abiding word.*' Part of what Paul did with his letters to the early church was to encourage a steady work ethic and to participate in the work to be done. We are called to use and share our gifts. I invite you to examine your gifts and where you can use them in this church and in this world. I invite you to consider participating in some of the good works of our churches that I mentioned this morning. I invite you to be my fellow steady workers and participate in the work to be done. Many hands make light work. Like the lyrics in the hymn *This Little Light of Mine*, I encourage you to look at your little lights, the things you can do and use them in this church and in this world. Everywhere you go **let it shine, let it shine, let it shine**!

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 121**

The **Community Emergency Food Pantry** provides groceries by appointment only.
Please call **860-647-8003 x 128**

The **Community Threads Thrift Shoppe** hours are Mon through Fri 10am – 2pm and Sat 10am – 1pm
860-647-8003 x 129

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.

COMMUNITY EMERGENCY FOOD PANTRY NEEDS LIST

The following items are always in need and donations are welcomed.

Toiletries:
- Shampoo / Conditioner
- Deodorant
- Razors
- Shaving Cream
- Toothpaste
- Body Soap
- Body Wash (Liquid)
- Baby Wipes

Food Items:
- Instant Potatoes
- Chili / Canned Pasta
- Beef Stew
- Canned Veggies
- Peanut Butter / Jelly
- Ketchup
- Mayonnaise
- Mustard
- Baking Mix (Cake & Brownie)
- Rice/Rice Mixes
- Baked Beans
- Fresh Fruit and Veggies
- Coffee (Regular, Decaf or Instant)
- Hot Chocolate
- Stuffing / Cornbread Mix
- Sugar
- Flour
- Pasta
- Pasta Sauce
- Ramen Noodles
- Chicken Noodle
- Cooking Oil

Cleaning Products:
- Dish Detergent
- Laundry Detergent

November Birthdays

2nd Bertha Brew
3rd Vicky Ladabouche
7th Sandy Geres
8th Lindsay Ladabouche
10th Barbara Judd
12th Elaine Law
15th Harry Arendt
16th Chris Collins
19th Paula Admaczyk
20th Emily Saccardi
27th Gregory Harris
29th Charley Cappello
29th Marlene Camper
30 Ruth Mancell-Opoku

Birthday Blessings to Everyone!

Church Council Meeting

TBD

Making Music Together

Come join our choir and/or praise band! We rehearse from 6 to 7:30pm 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

November 5th, 12th & 19th

DONORS URGENTLY NEEDED.
CALL 1-800-GIVE LIFE
(1-800-448-3543) to schedule an appointment, or sign up online.

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!

Pauline's Stockpot

Summertime lunches were served up every Wednesday and Friday at Pauline's Stockpot in East Windsor. On average, this amazing ministry, offered out of the kitchen at Wesley UMC, is serving up about 300 meals each week! In addition, the patrons are given a chance to grocery shop from a huge variety of fresh and pantry stable groceries and other supplies. All this is managed with a handful of very dedicated volunteers, including our own Barbara Judd pictured here with some of the "girls" whipping up a cool batch of ambrosia for dessert. Barbara says, "the fruit was flying" as the granddaughters of several of the volunteers off for the summer helped her prepare that day's offering. These girls are learning that helping out is also good fun. What a great summer camp opportunity! If you would like to volunteer to help out or support the mission by making a cash contribution, please talk with Barbara and she'll give you the details. You'll never find a more worthy cause anywhere!

Knitting Ministry

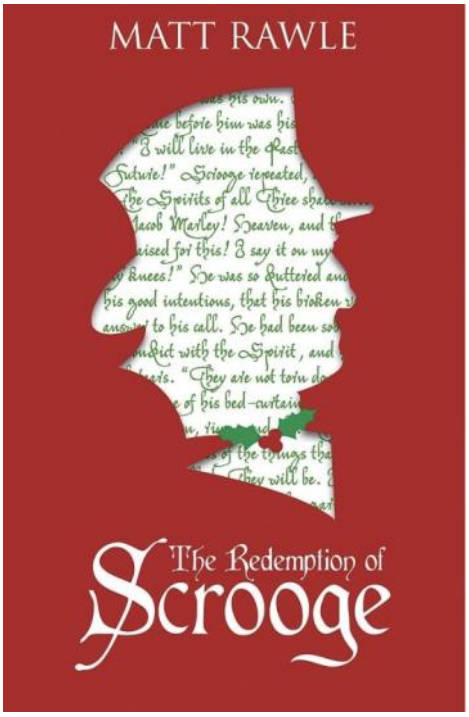
We crochet and knit prayers shawls, hats and scarves for our MACC friends, lap blankets for the John A. DeQuattro Cancer Center and baby blankets, etc. for the Family Birthing Center at the Manchester Memorial Hospital.

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. The Knitting Ministry Meeting Schedule for **Fall** 2026 is a as follows:

11/2, 11/16; 12/7, 12/21

Contact: Paula Adamczyk anthony.adamczyk@snet.net
or Susan Derby susanderby@cox.net with questions.



The Redemption of Scrooge
Advent Bible Study

Join us each week or just drop in. Books are limited, so see Pastor Sandy for one.

The series examines Charles Dickens' classic through a Christian lens. The central premise is that if redemption is possible for someone as deeply bitter as Scrooge, it is possible for anyone. Rather than seeing A Christmas Carol as just a secular morality tale, it uncovers deep biblical truths about second chances, forgiveness, and the breaking of spiritual chains.

Study group will meet after worship in pastor Sandy's office

Nov. 29	Week 1: Bah! Humbug!
Dec. 6	Week 2: The Remembrance of Christmas Past
Dec. 13	Week 3: The Life of Christmas Present
Dec. 20	Week 4: The Hope of Christmas Future

North Church Readers

Our book discussion for Our next book selection will be led by Sandy Geres and is being scheduled to meet Sunday, November 15 after worship.

The Things We Never Say by Elizabeth Strout is about Artie Dam, a 57 year old history teacher living near Massachusetts Bay, appears to live a contented life: he teaches 11th graders, attends holiday parties with his wife of 3 decades, maintains friendships, and enjoys sailing on the weekends. Though outwardly present, Artie is internally plagued by feelings of isolation, loneliness, and a growing awareness of how little people truly know one another. The story is set against the backdrop of 2024 America, reflecting political unrest and societal tension, which amplifies Artie's sense of disconnection.

Prayer Requests

We invite you to share your prayer needs with our church family. Prayer request sheets are available on the **Memorial Table** for anyone who would like to submit a request for themselves or someone else. Once completed, please place your prayer request sheet in **Makayla's mailbox.** Requests will be handled with care and confidentiality and added to the appropriate prayer list.
Thank you for helping us support one another through prayer.
"*Pray for one another…" —James 5:16*

Hanging of the Greens & Potluck November 28th at 4:30 pm

More details to come

Preaching Opportunity

We're inviting members of our church family to sign up to preach a Sunday sermon. Our pastor will provide the Scripture readings and any other information needed for the service. All you need to do is prepare and share the sermon. If you feel called to preach or would simply like to give it a try, we'd love to have you participate! Please sign up for an available Sunday and help us continue to grow together through the sharing of God's Word.

Sign-up dates are available in the Memorial Room.

Do you have magazines collecting dust in your home?

If you do, bring them to church, as Pastor Sandy is collecting magazines for a friend's child. This child has Kabuki Syndrome. Kabuki Syndrome is rare, with only 1600 cases diagnosed, and it affects multiple organs, with symptoms varying widely. This child, named AJ, was diagnosed a few years ago and, at age 10, is a beautiful young man who uses these magazines to de-stress. If you can, bring your unwanted magazines to church and drop them off in the bin in the church Narthex.

Name Tags, Please!

As we welcome our new pastor, Sandy, let's help make everyone feel at home! Please remember to wear your name tag each Sunday. It's a simple way to help Sandy learn names, make meaningful connections, and get to know our church family more quickly.

Thank you for helping us extend a warm and welcoming spirit!

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
All Saints Day 10:30 am Blended In-Person and ZOOM Online Worship	1 pm Knitting Ministry 		6:00 pm Choir Rehearsal 			
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
10:30 am Blended In-Person and ZOOM Online Worship			6:00 pm Choir Rehearsal 			
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
10:30 am Blended In-Person and ZOOM Online Worship	1 pm Knitting Ministry 		6:00 pm Choir Rehearsal 			
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
10:30 am Blended In-Person and ZOOM Online Worship			6:00 pm Choir Rehearsal 	Happy Thanksgiving! 		Hanging of the Greens 4:30 pm
29	30					
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: **Sandra Knapp**

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 dismiss 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 proclaimed 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.