

CONNECTIONS

Mission Statement: To equip all to joyfully grow their faith, seek God's will and serve others within a welcoming community centered on Jesus Christ. Wethersfield United Methodist Church welcomes, into full participation in our community, all persons, regardless of sexual orientation, race, gender, age, ability, economic status, immigration status, or culture.

April 14, 2024

Wethersfield
United Methodist Church
150 Prospect Street
Wethersfield, CT 06109
860-529-2025
info@wethersfieldchurch.org
www.wethersfieldchurch.org



Third Sunday of Easter Worship Service at 10:30 a.m.

Please join us for an in-person Worship Service, led by Pastor John, in the Sanctuary at church and on Zoom!

For those who would prefer to stay at home and attend worship by Zoom, you will see our worship service in the Sanctuary! **The link for Zoom can be found on this page in the right column.**

Our worship slide show, which includes music lyrics, will be projected on our screen in the Sanctuary. *Mike Gowdy* will be playing piano, singing and leading music, *Carol Buongiorno* will lead the Children's Moment, *Colin Armour* will read Scripture, *Jan Ironside* will lead Joys and Concerns and *Deb Henault and Cheryl Tafas* will lead the Covenant Moment.

A 200th Anniversary Event, Sunday, April 14, after worship, "Coffee Hour at 130 Main Street - A Presentation on the History of Faith Communities in Old Wethersfield." Please see the article on page 4 for more details.



The Scars Remain Sermon by Pastor John

A Special Offering, on April 14, will be held for Native American Ministries Sunday.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84722132988?pwd=7S5e0nbMy5xsft2PkkccbnQEJYPBDf.1>

Meeting ID: 847 2213 2988

Passcode: 150051

Dial by your location

+1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC)

+1 305 224 1968 US

+1 309 205 3325 US

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

+1 646 931 3860 US

+1 929 205 6099 US (New York)

+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

Find your local number:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/kdhZ6shQgl>

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Pastor: The Rev. John A. Thomason
Older Adult Ministry: Jan Ironside
Music Ministry: Michael Gowdy
Director of Children and Youth Ministry:
Elishia McAllister

Office Administrator: Karen Rudewicz
Treasurer: Dawn Montenieri
Custodian: Ryan O'Connor

THE CONNECTIONS NEWSLETTER

To give everyone enough time to read *Connections* before the weekend starts, we email it to you on Thursdays. The deadline for submitting articles for *Connections* is 9:00 a.m. on Tuesdays.

Tuesday, April 16 at 9:00 a.m. is the deadline for the next issue of *Connections*. Thank you.

FROM PASTOR JOHN

If you attended last Sunday's service in person or by Zoom, you're aware that we implemented a change in our worship order. The part of the service we call "Congregational Life" has been moved to the beginning when I offer a welcome to worshipers. This way, the flow and mood of worship will not be interrupted by announcements of church activities. Also, I will make the announcements on behalf of other members and organizations. This will hopefully streamline the process. **But I need your help to make this work. Please provide me with your announcements in written form prior to the service (a text, email, or slip of paper).**

This new place for "Congregational Life" in no way diminishes the importance of being apprised of church activities. It simply places church announcements in a more appropriate setting, which I trust will also enhance our experience of worship.

Grace and peace, *John*

MEMBERSHIP ORIENTATION CLASS **Sunday, April 7, 11:45 a.m., Fireside Room** **Sunday, April 14, 9:30 a.m., Pastor's office**

If you are interested in learning more about the United Methodist Church and Wethersfield UMC, a two-part Membership Orientation class will be offered on the 1st two Sundays of April. Please note that the class times differ on those two Sundays. Contact Pastor John (845-707-5152) if you have questions.

How to contact Pastor John

- Working days on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays. Available on Sunday afternoons and evenings for social contacts, appointments, and meetings.
- Church office phone, extension 113.
- Cellphone number: 845-707-5152, call or text; no landline at the parsonage.
- Church email address: johnthomason@wethersfieldchurch.org.
Personal email address: johnthomason1948@yahoo.com.

CONNECTIONS



This feature in our newsletter expresses thanks to people for special service to the church and highlights achievements of our members at school, at work, or in the community. Please text or email Pastor John with your contributions.

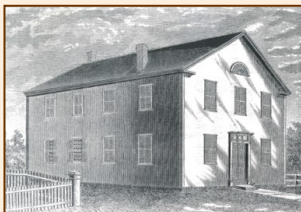


200th ANNIVERSARY EVENT THIS SUNDAY!



Details

After the WUMC service on Sunday, April 14, our after-worship coffee hour will be held at 12:00 p.m. at the hall at the rear of Temple Beth Torah at 130 Main Street in Old Wethersfield – the site of our fellowship from 1824 to 1959. At 12:30 p.m.,



we will proceed to our former sanctuary for a brief presentation on the history of faith communities in Old Wethersfield, given by *Wethersfield Historical Society* docents Carol Bruce and Doreen Ciarcia. Maps will be available for those interested in a self-guided tour afterward to nearby sites highlighted in the talk.

Parking/Carpooling

Please leave promptly after worship to allow time to get to Temple Beth Torah at 130 Main Street in Old Wethersfield, which is approximately 1.6 miles from our Prospect Street church. Carpooling is suggested as there is no parking lot at the synagogue. Parking is available on Main Street, Garden Street and behind the Keeney Memorial Cultural Center at 200 Main Street. Please note that the entrances and toilet facilities at Temple Beth Torah are not handicapped accessible. We are, however, obtaining a handicapped ramp for the rear entrance leading to the hall just for this event. The 200th Anniversary Committee apologizes in advance for some of the obstacles to the full inclusiveness that is a primary goal of WUMC. If you are interested in carpooling from WUMC to the event, there will be a sign-up sheet on the Community Connections Board or sign up online at <https://tinyurl.com/ye22y5a6>.

We are grateful to Temple Beth Torah for graciously welcoming us to celebrate our beginnings in this house of worship sacred to Christianity and Judaism.

200th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION CORNER

200 Years Ago...

On April 18, 1824, the cornerstone of the first Methodist church in Wethersfield was laid. "The long clapboard structure was built upon a tract of one-quarter acre, on which was standing the old-fashioned one-story dwelling house demolished in 1882. That house was at times used as a parsonage and at times rented out." In 1846, the pulpit was moved from the front to the back of the sanctuary and the pews turned around. By the 1877 arrival of the Rev. C. J. North, the building needed repair. "Much of the work was done by his own hands, though he was aided by members of the church. The interior was improved but the exterior of the building still retained its forbidden and forsaken look."



In April of 1880, the Rev. George L. Colburn preached his first sermon "with feelings of sadness mixed with hope. There stood the old church, against which the blasts of nearly 60 winters had beaten. Grim and bald as Horeb, a silent monument of a mighty past and a heroic race. Like Nehemiah he saw Zion in a ruined state and his soul was stirred within him. The cause of God and humanity demanded a change. The waste places must be repaired, Jerusalem must be rebuilt, the temple must be restored, and her altars renewed." After months of prayerful consideration, Rev. Colburn called a meeting on October 1, 1880 that led to the voting on a resolution appointing him to act "as financial agent of the trustees and stewards ... to collect money for a building committee." A sum of \$2,500 was raised. (This event is documented in the handwritten record books the 200th anniversary committee has been reviewing.)

Subsequently, the structure was jacked up from the stone foundation and moved 22 feet east and 4 feet south. Have you ever wondered how that original cornerstone, with the April 18, 1824 inscription still visible, could be near our Prospect Street Memorial Garden, even as the 130 Main Street building still stands? Well, we brought it with us in 1959!

Then, the old house was razed. Excavation began on March 17, 1882 and was completed on April 5 of the same year. "Considerable of the labor of excavating was contributed by friends of the society. An edition was made to the east end, a good cellar built under the whole, old-style windows replaced with others of modern design with cathedral glass. Uncomfortable seats were replaced, a 20 x 30 foot room was added for society gatherings and Sunday school with library closets, and an 80 foot tower with spire added." After purchasing the building in 1960, Temple Beth Torah made modifications, including repair of those windows and removal of the steeple.

This information is mostly found in the Brief Historical Sketch of the Wethersfield M. E. Church written by Rev. George L. Colburn and published in 1882. It contains many advertisements paid for by local town and Hartford businesses, such as the Hartford Life and Annuity Insurance Company, Plimpton manufacturer of paper goods, and local seed companies. "That the new church may be dedicated free of all indebtedness we have issued this little book, believing there are very few who will not aid us to the amount of 15 cents." Three very worn originals have survived. Copies of selected pages are displayed on the hallway bulletin board near the Old Fellowship Hall. A program entitled Dedicatory Services of the Wethersfield M.E. Church, Thursday, September 7, 1882 is also posted there.

NATIVE AMERICAN MINISTRIES SUNDAY

A Special Offering, on April 14, will be held for Native American Ministries Sunday

Native American Ministries Sunday serves to remind United Methodists of the gifts and contributions made by Native Americans to our society. With more than 20,000 Native Americans within the denomination, this special Sunday helps to ensure that Native American United Methodist leaders are recognized. It was officially recognized in 1988 and has been celebrated on the 3rd Sunday of Easter since 1989. An offering is taken on this Special Sunday to develop and strengthen Native American ministries in the Annual Conferences, Native American rural, urban, reservation ministries and communities relating to the General Board of Global Ministries. It also provides scholarships for Native Americans attending United Methodist schools of theology distributed by the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry.

NEW ARTICLES



150 Prospect Open Mic and Coffee House Experience

Saturday, April 13, 2024, at 6:00 - 9:00 p.m.
in the FLC and Kitchen

Come enjoy a night of great company, music and food, this Saturday, April 13, at 6:00 p.m. in the Family Life Center (FLC). Mary Ellen Cowles, our anchor, is a singer/songwriter from the Lower Connecticut River Valley who plays guitar, piano, and dulcimer. As an acoustic guitarist, she plays folk, classical, and jazz songs, using fingerpicking styles and strumming. A specialty is performing Joni Mitchell's songs on guitar, piano, and dulcimer, using her various tunings and transcriptions. Mary has been a member in the LCRV bands including The Gary Torello Band, The Mary Cowles Band, CHIX Mix and Christopher Abbot Band. Her Gramma's Attic Music Revue video can be found on Youtube.

Please bring a dish (casserole, pot of chili) for our free meal offering or a plate of cookies, brownies or cupcakes.



150 PROSPECT located at 150 Prospect Street, Wethersfield, is a substance-free venue, open to all. We offer free homemade soups, chili, casseroles, desserts, coffee and soft drinks. A free-will donation is welcomed. Please bring a non-perishable food item for our food pantry.

Started in March of 2015, **150 PROSPECT** has grown in size and in the number of performers who bring their talents to the stage. For our performers, we can offer, from just a simple stool and a microphone, up to a full soundboard with monitors, lights, and electronic keyboard, along with drum kit setup for larger groups. If you would like to sing and need accompaniment bring your favorite song on an MP3 player and we can plug you in. If you are a group of more than 5 players we ask that you call ahead to insure that enough microphones and instrument plugins are available.

For more information, contact Tanja Moriarty, [860-614-5158](tel:860-614-5158), or tanjam265@gmail.com

NEW ARTICLES

Suzanne Neafus is performing a solo at the event below, as well as playing with the massed group. If anyone has questions or wants to help at the event, please reach out to Suzanne.

A poster for a handbell concert. The background features a chalkboard with white and yellow text, framed by a wooden border. To the right of the chalkboard are several vibrant flowers in shades of yellow, orange, and red. In the bottom left corner, two large, polished brass handbells are visible. The text on the chalkboard reads: "Connecticut Spring Ring Handbell Concert" in a white script font, "Sat April 20th 3 pm" in a yellow script font, "Wethersfield United Methodist Church" in a white sans-serif font, "150 Prospect Avenue" in a white sans-serif font, "Wethersfield, CT 06109" in a white sans-serif font, and "Free and Open to the Public" in a bold black sans-serif font. At the bottom, there is a sponsor logo for "Handbell Musicians OF AMERICA" and a QR code.

*Connecticut Spring Ring
Handbell Concert*

Sat April 20th 3 pm

Wethersfield United Methodist Church
150 Prospect Avenue
Wethersfield, CT 06109

Free and Open to the Public

Sponsored by  Handbell Musicians
OF AMERICA



RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVES

Gerry and I enjoy facilitating Red Cross Blood Drives. We would appreciate having a few other church members to serve as backup if we are unable to be present for any unexpected reason. It involves unlocking the FLC at 7:00 a.m. and setting up tables and chairs, and taking them down and securing the building at 2:00 p.m. Please contact us if you are willing.

A Blood Drive will be held on **Saturday, April 27**. - Gerry and Grace Hayes



"SING UNTO THE LORD A NEW SONG. SING UNTO THE LORD ALL THE EARTH" PS. 96

YOU ARE INVITED TO ATTEND



Spring

CT DISTRICT CONCERT

CT DISTRICT CONTATA,
NEW ROOM MIDSTATE CHOIR,
KENSINGTON UMC PRAISE & WORSHIP,
NEW PRAISE OF HPUMC,
BECKY DOYON, NUMC STEEL PAN BAND,

Saturday, April 13th

Director Rev. Jeremiah Paul | 1:30 PM - 2:30 PM
West Hartford UMC

1358 NEW BRITAIN AVE | WEST HARTFORD | CONNECTICUT



NEW HAVEN KOREAN



KENSINGTON UMC WORSHIP



GLORY CHOIR



NEW PRAISE



UPCOMING EVENTS

APRIL

12-13

Hosted By GHP
West Hartford UMC
FRIDAY 4/12 ALL CLERGY
SATURDAY 4/13 ALL CHURCH LAITY

Evangelism Initiative
w/ Dr. Douglas Powe Jr.

AUTHOR OF: *TRANSFORMING EVANGELISM*
April 12 Dr. Powe will be with all clergy and parish/church leaders of the CT District. On Saturday April 13, we will continue the evangelism retreat with all church laity and clergy and an afternoon District Easter Concert.

APRIL

20

Hosted by UMC of Hartford
12 PM - 1:30 PM ALL ARE WELCOMED
GOAL IS TO HAVE PARTICIPATION FROM
EACH CHURCH.

Earth Day Luncheon
Greater Hartford Parish Creation Care

Our parish goal is that 100% of our parish churches participate in recycling in their fellowship hall. The GHP Earth Day Luncheon will ensure that recycling cans are provided for each parish church. Please view the flyer for all event details.

MAY

4

Hosted By GHP
Trinity Windsor UMC
9AM - 3:PM

CT District Conference
w/ Dr. Leonard Sweet

AUTHOR OF: *JESUS HUMAN & DESIGNER JESUS*
Dr. Leonard Sweet will meet with clergy in the morning. We will have lunch and he will conclude as the Keynote speaker for the annual CT District Conference.



NYAC ANNUAL CONFERENCE JUNE 7-9TH
HELD IN STAMFORD CT AT THE HILTON
CONNECTIONALISM GHP
GREATER HARTFORD COOPERATIVE PARISH

GREATER HARTFORD COOP. PARISH
THE COMMUNITY IS INVITED TO COME ENJOY

EARTH DAY FESTIVAL

Greater Hartford Cooperative Parish

APRIL 20th, 2024 @

HELD UMC OF HARTFORD

571 FARMINGTON AVE. HARTFORD CT



Cultural Food Tasting

To celebrate the glorious diversity of creation, we will host foods from various cultures.



Special Guest Speakers

CT largest Compost organization leader of Blue Earth Composting will speak about how composting is a defense against global warming.

Leader in Renewable energy will speak about the benefits of transitioning to solar electricity.



Free Recycling Resources for Churches

One of our 2024 parish goals is to have 100% of our parish recycling in the fellowship hall. Recycling cans will be provided for churches who do not presently have recycling in their fellowship hall.

UMC OF HARTFORD

571 Farmington Ave. Hartford CT

860-523-5132

www.umcofhartford.org



VectorStock

freemove.org/1000000

CELEBRATION CONCERT

Celebration Concert

Come out on Saturday, May 4 at 3:00 p.m. for our Celebration Concert, commemorating 200 years of the WUMC! The concert will take place outdoors (weather permitting) in front of the church, so make sure to bring your folding chairs and blankets. There will also be food and refreshments available. The concert will include the choir, bell choir, praise band, and solos. Musical selections will include a range of music from traditional hymns to gospel, inspirational and Christian rock. This is a free event, so bring your friends, family, and neighbors! As a reminder, this is an alcohol-free event.

A
Wethersfield
United
Methodist
Church
200th
Anniversary
Event

From Elishia McAllister,
Director of Children and Youth Ministry

Our next Saturday Service Project, April 13:

Bloom Brigade!

On **April 13, from 9:00 a.m. - noon**, we will join Mrs. Grace Hayes in beautifying our Wethersfield UMC garden beds which she works so diligently to maintain, week after week. Looking forward to seeing you there!



Also, for those who end up falling in love with foliage on April 13, we are hoping to form a Garden Club and do more things of this variety on a regular basis moving forward! Please reach out via email if you are interested in Garden Club. (Please feel free to bring your friends from school, as well! Garden Club will be welcome to all youth in the area.)

Elishia McAllister (They/ Them/ Theirs)

[LinkedIn profile](#)

Director of Youth & Children's Ministry,
Wethersfield UMC

(860) 529. 2025 | ext 115

Wethersfield UMC



CARING FOR CHURCH GROUNDS

The extensive grounds of WUMC are cared for by volunteers. Al Dowd and Doug Weed do all the lawn mowing, blowing, and raking. Gerry and Grace Hayes need help with the gardens. Could someone, or maybe a family or church group, adopt an area, such as around the gazebo, or in front of the sanctuary ramp, or the shrubbery bed in the middle of the FLC ramp? The memorial garden requires frequent weeding and deadheading. Please call Grace at 860-970-3108 to volunteer.

OUR NEW PASTOR

Our new pastor, Rev. Dr. Marion Ryan Hubbard

As of July 1, our new pastor will be Rev. Dr. Marion Ryan Hubbard. She had previously served with us back in 2021 for 4 months while Rev. Beckford was on leave. Listed below is her biographical information



Rev. Dr. Marion Ryan Hubbard is a member of the New York Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church with 20 years of service in parish ministry as an ordained Elder. She has served as a pastor to seven churches in the New York Annual Conference. She earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in Psychology from Post University. She also holds a Master's of Divinity and a Doctor of Ministry degree from Drew University. Her doctorate dissertation was "A Guide to a Faith-Based Support Group for Adults Who Personally Experienced Childhood Trauma."

Marion has done extensive work in ministry in Ghana, Africa. In her ten years of service to the Ghanaian people, she was a co-founder of the Project Dorcas Medical Clinic in the north of Ghana in Tamale, bringing much-needed medical assistance to the wonderful people of the rural Yapalla Village and surrounding areas. She has also been a part of the Kairos International prison ministry team serving over 10 years in the Connecticut prison system.

Being a New Yorker, born and raised with a love of adventure, has taken her on many exciting journeys with God at her side. She has traveled to many

states across the U.S. and around the world including Korea, China, India, Turkey, Jerusalem, Germany, the Czech Republic, England, Ireland, and Scotland.

In 1981, Marion became a single mom and left New York City with her three children and settled in Bethel, CT. As God would have it, twelve years later, the love of her life appeared, and she married for a second time to a wonderful man, Robert Hubbard. Between them, they have ten children and twenty-one grandchildren. They were married for 31 wonderful years until Bob's passing this past January from Dementia. In 2018, Marion retired from active ministry at the New York Annual Conference to take care of her husband who developed dementia. For the past six years, they have lived in Tequesta, FL, and attended First United Methodist of Jupiter, FL. She has been active in her local United Methodist church, serving wherever needed, preaching on occasion, visiting the shut-ins, and running Bible studies and support groups during the year. She is currently working part-time as a Counselor for Community Christian Counseling Center.

Her mother always stated, "Going out with Marion is like going on an adventure; you never know where you will end up." Pastor Marion is so excited to be joining us again to continue the journey of bringing God's love to Wethersfield and beyond.

MOUNTAINS OF HOPE FOR HAITI

From Judy Dowd



March 2024

Wendy and I just returned from two weeks in Ft Myers and Punta Gorda, working with two college disaster recovery teams. During that time we also had the opportunity to meet with David Draeger, the Mission Volunteer Coordinator for the Methodist Church of Haiti, and Molly McEntire, the Florida Conference Director of Missions at the Conference Center. David has been in the States for the past six weeks visiting family, churches, and other supporters of mission work in Haiti. Unknown to David at that time, his flight out of Port au Prince was one of the last commercial flights departing as gang activity has shut down the airport.

In one sense we are running out of words to describe the situation in Haiti. In summary, gang activity has now moved from the greater PAP area to rural communities to the more affluent areas of Petionville, Laboule and Thomassin. Just several days ago, more than 10 persons were murdered in Thomassin. For those who have been to Furcy, Petionville is where the Methodist Guest House is located and the others are two areas we pass on the way to up the mountain to Furcy.

While at the Conference Center, David made a short video which has been posted on the Florida Conference website. He describes the situation in Haiti, the work of the church, the challenges the people face, and a request for prayers and assistance. Here is the link to that video: <https://vimeo.com/923152367/b7bb63c999?share=copy>

Gangs have effectively shut down the economy. Major roads are blocked, farmers are extorted for payment, ports are under gang control, and the main airport is closed. Food access is difficult, expensive; gangs have looted food-aid stations, and millions are now considered having moved from "food-insecure" to a "famine-like" situation. Mass starvation is a concern both in urban and rural areas.

Aid-organizations are trying to find alternative ways of getting food to people. In some areas, gangs have offered days of "truce" which allow people to do what shopping they can, and for food to get through. One interesting scenario is, the Methodist Church at College Bird in Port au Prince has been given a reprieve to provide meals on Sundays following worship. According to David some 400+ meals have been provided each Sunday to local residents during this time. How long this will last no one knows. The whole situation is so tenuous.

What can we do? Mountains of Hope is seeking to work with several other organizations to provide emergency supplies. Earlier this month we received funds to provide seed and fertilizer to the Farmer's Association. We are hoping to provide emergency rice and beans to community members as well to supplement what the farmer's grow. Smyrna UMC in eastern North Carolina has offered \$1000 to help initiate this effort. We are grateful for their support.

(Continued on next page)

MOUNTAINS OF HOPE FOR HAITI

From Judy Dowd (Continued)

If you would like to support this effort please donate through the following means:

Funds may continue to be sent to the Frontier Foundation, 20 Soundview Avenue, White Plains, NY 10606. Please make checks out to "The Frontier Foundation" and indicate Mountains of Hope in the memo line. There is also a donation link on the MHH website mountainsofhopeforhaiti.org. You will receive an immediate acknowledgement.

For those in Florida, you may send funds to Celebration UMC, 9501 SW Archer Road, Gainesville, Florida, 32608. Please make those checks out to Celebration UMC and also indicate Mountains of Hope in the memo lines. You can also donate online at celebrationgncv.org. Click on "give" on the home page banner, then "donate" and it will take you to the Mountains of Hope donation link.

We again share with you the guiding principles that established Mountains of Hope 20 years ago.

As Mountains of Hope we:

- Affirm the sacred dignity and worth of every human being;
- Believe that all people have a God-given right to sufficient food, water, shelter and medical care; and opportunities for education and self-sustaining employment;
- Believe that a sustained presence and relationship in a community is the most effective means of enacting change and developing a more sustained presence and future for that community;
- Do not so much "do" for others, but help provide the basic necessities and tools by which others can "do" for themselves.

On behalf of the people we serve, we thank you for your ongoing support in prayers, gifts, and service.

Bondye bene nou,

Tom and Wendy

A SPECIAL THANK YOU



Thank you to our WUMC members who purchased the 71 Easter Baskets shown in the picture on the left. The baskets were filled with Munson's candy and a religious storybook and were delivered on Wednesday, March 27 to the Wethersfield Housing Authority and distributed to their low-income families.

The staff and residents were very appreciative, and two families stopped by the office to thank us for our thoughtfulness.

CENTRAL CONNECTICUT HEALTH DISTRICT

APRIL 2024

HEALTHY CONNECTIONS



Central
Connecticut
Health
District

Welcome to Central Connecticut Health District's Healthy Connections monthly newsletter. We hope that the information we have included will help you make healthy lifestyle choices and provide you with the latest information in community health.

Community Conversation Monday, April 1st 6:30-7:30pm Public Mental Health Wellness

This community conversation is an open discussion about mental health wellness; what it is, how it can improve in the district and what resources are available.

- Share your thoughts with us on the mental wellness of our community.
- In-person at our main office (2080 Silas Deane Highway, Rocky Hill)
- Also available via Zoom or conference call. Please register for these options at ccthd.org/chs
- Refreshments will be served for in person participants.

For more details about this event,
ccthd.org/nphw-community-conversation
or for help with registering, call 860-785-8383 x216

Women's Health Fair Thursday, April 18th, 8am-1:30pm

-Mobile mammography van
-STI education, free condoms
-Health education
-Hepatitis C antibody screening (results in 30 minutes)
-Blood pressure screenings
-Information on CT's Early Detection and Prevention program



Take the Time is Hartford Hospital's digital mobile mammography program, bringing convenient, accessible screenings to locations across Connecticut.

You can either walk-in or schedule a 15 minute appointment from 8am-1:15 pm in our main office parking lot.

For those without insurance, grant funding is in place to cover the cost of your mammogram.

More details, eligibility requirements and appointment information can be found at ccthd.org/mammography.

For assistance with appointments,
call 860-785-8383 x216

Should I be concerned about mold in my home?

What is mold?

Molds are microscopic organisms that are found virtually everywhere, both indoors and outdoors. Molds are types of fungi that live on plants, foods, dry leaves, wood, and other organic materials

Can mold become a problem in my home?

Yes, mold needs moisture to thrive and multiply. Major sources of indoor moisture that can cause mold problems include:

- flooding
- backed-up sewers
- plumbing leaks
- leaky roofs
- humidifiers
- ice dams
- damp basements
- moisture from combustion appliances (furnace or stove)
- excess moisture in kitchens and bathrooms due to poor or no ventilation

How am I exposed to indoor molds?

It is common to find mold spores in the air in Connecticut homes. Mold spores primarily cause health problems when they become airborne and are inhaled.

What are possible health effects?

Typical symptoms reported by individuals exposed to mold may include:

- breathing difficulties
- asthma flare-ups
- dizziness
- dry, hacking cough
- sore throat
- headaches
- burning, reddened eyes
- nasal and sinus congestion
- shortness of breath
- skin irritation

Should I test my home for mold?

The Connecticut Department of Public Health (DPH) does not recommend testing as the first step to determine if you have a mold problem because there are no health-based air standards for levels of mold indoors.

Air testing almost never affects the final recommendations. If you can see or smell mold or mildew, you have a moisture and mold problem.

The first step is to control the moisture and then clean and dry out the moldy area. Then it is important to identify the moisture source and correct it.

For more information on mold and for cleaning and removal guidance, please go to: ct.gov/dph/mold



A NEW BOOK STUDY

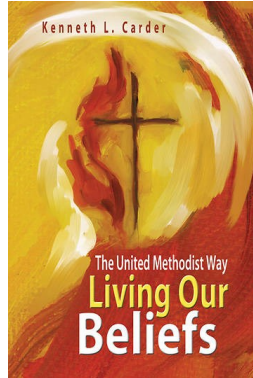
**A new book study at 9:30 a.m.,
starting April 7**

“Living Our Beliefs”

The United Methodist Way

By Kenneth L. Carder

Foreword by Randy L. Maddox



Faithful Christian discipleship requires a foundation in the core belief and practices of the Christian tradition. Wesley's sermons

and writing provide this stepping off point. “Living Our Beliefs” offers a basic explanation of the beliefs and practices of The United Methodist Church as defined in Part II of The Book of Discipline. Readers uncover a deeper understanding and experience of Christian faith as they live the United Methodist way.

Please contact Gary Schaffrick for more information.

REGISTER FOR UM ARMY SUMMER CAMP

It's Time to Register for UM ARMY Summer Camp! - From Judy Dowd

Summer is right around the corner and it is time to register for UM Army! The link for individual registrations is below. Note two important dates - **registration (now)** and June 1st payments are due to UM Army Northeast, so **I will want payments mid May**. Scholarships are available. Don't make money be the reason you don't register!

And remember, **we need to have 2 adults for every 5 youth registered**. Participating in UM Army is a life changing experience!

Again, our week is Sunday, July 14th to Saturday, July 20th in Hampton, NH and the week is \$325.

If you have any questions or would like any additional information, please contact Judy Dowd at (860) 989-5106. Come share an amazing experience with the awesome youth in our church!

Individual Registration Link: UMARMY.net | [Online Mission Experience Management](#)

Here are some dates to remember as we begin to plan for your trip:

April 15th - We will connect and discuss your participant numbers and if they are changing. You can continue to add additional participants. After this date, your church will be financially responsible for the number of participants that have been registered.

June 1st - Your group's registration balance is due. For our refund policy, please visit our website at umarmy.org

CHOIR AND BELL CHOIR REHEARSALS

On, Thursday, April 19 , the Bell Choir will rehearse at 6:30 p.m. in Old Fellowship Hall and the Chancel Choir will rehearse at 7:30 p.m. in the Music Room.

FUNDRAISER FOR U M ARMY

Please see below for an opportunity for all the golfer or eaters in the Congregation. **U.M. ARMY Northeast Invites You To "Swing For The Green"** . . . or if you are willing to donate an item for the silent auction, it will support UM Army Northeast.



U.M. ARMY NORTHEAST

SWING FOR THE GREEN

GOLF OUTING & DINNER
BENEFITING YOUTH MISSIONS

18 Holes of Golf
Prizes and Local Craft Beer Tastings
19th Hole Cocktail Hour
Dinner
Silent Auction

Sponsorships
available!



Lyman Orchards Golf Club
Middlefield, CT

Friday, May 17th, 2024

AT
1PM

GOLF & DINNER

\$150



COCKTAIL HOUR &
DINNER ONLY

\$60



(Continued on next page)

FUNDRAISER FOR U M ARMY

Swing for the Green (continued)

Join us as a golfer, diner, or sponsor and help U.M. ARMY bring youth mission to folks all over the Northeast! U.M. ARMY is an acronym which stands for United in Mission, Action Reach-out Ministry by Youth. U.M. ARMY programs support low-income, seniors, and disabled community members through providing home repair and maintenance to those who are physically or financially unable to make needed repairs themselves.

Date: Friday, May 17, 2024

Time: 1:0 p.m. - Shotgun start (scramble format)

5:30 p.m.-.19th Hole Cocktail Hour followed by Dinner

Location: Gary Player Course at Lyman Orchards in
Middlefield, CT

Golf & Dinner \$150

Dinner Only \$60

A golf ticket includes:

18 Holes of Golf with prizes and local craft beer tastings

19th Hole Cocktail Hour

Dinner

Silent Auction

A dinner ticket includes:

19th Hole Cocktail Hour

Dinner

Silent Auction

Questions? Email Gina Grubbs at ginagrubbs@umarmy.org

To register please click on the link below:

[U.M. ARMY - United in Mission Golf Outing: Swing for the Green \(networkforgood.com\)](https://networkforgood.com)

Covid Policy - Effective September 4, 2022: WUMC returned to a "mask optional" policy for worship services, Congregants are encouraged to continue with masking and social distancing as they feel comfortable. WUMC will continue to follow state guidelines as they become available. -WUMC Church Council



News from the Connecticut District

CT District Evangelism Initiative 2024-25

West Hartford United Methodist Church

Friday, April 12th Open to Clergy & Parish Leadership Only

Forum with Rev. Dr. F. Douglas Powe Jr.

Saturday, April 13th OPEN to ALL

West Hartford United Methodist Church

Forum with Rev. Dr. F. Douglas Powe Jr. & POWERFUL Worship Concert

Registration Required for Saturday Only

Register For SATURDAY →

The CT District Evangelism Initiative is a cornerstone event aimed at spreading the love and teachings of our faith to the broader community. It's a chance for us to unite in purpose and reach out to those who may be seeking spiritual guidance, support, or simply a sense of belonging.

The above event promises to be an unforgettable experience, filled with spiritual fellowship and uplifting moments. Let's make lasting memories together at this exciting event in the Connecticut District. We look forward to seeing you there!

LADIES OUT TO LUNCH BUNCH

Ladies Out to Lunch Bunch

From Jan Ironside

Here are some upcoming dates for the Ladies Out to Lunch Bunch:

May 9, 11:30 a.m., at Saybrook Fish House, in Rocky Hill

June 13, 11:30 a.m., at Casa Mia, in Rocky Hill



If you would like to make an electronic offering to WUMC, please click on this link:

[Donate \(paypal.com\)](https://www.paypal.com)

FELLOWSHIP COFFEE HOUR

This Sunday, April 14, a 200th Anniversary Event, "Coffee Hour at 130 Main Street - A Presentation on the History of Faith Communities in Old Wethersfield" will be held at Temple Beth Torah, at 12:00 p.m. Please see the article on page 4 for more information.

**Please, will you provide some goodies
for Fellowship Coffee Hour on April 21?**

From Betty: I am asking for goodies as follows:

First Sunday	Last names starting with A-C
Second Sunday	Last names starting with D-I
Third Sunday	Last names starting with J-Q
Fourth Sunday	Last names starting with R-W
Fifth Sunday	Anyone on a Committee

Many thanks to all who contribute goodies for
Coffee Hour.

"BUCK A BOOK" BOOK NOOK FUNDRAISER

The books will be located in the foyer of the FLC in bookcases. Just stop by, browse through the shelves, and leave a "Buck-a-Book" in the donation box. The books that we have in storage will be added to the shelves gradually. . .so stop by often to see what is new!

MEET FOR MAHJONG!

A number of church members and friends of the church have taken an interest in playing American Mahjong. The suggestion was made to set a regular time to gather and play together here at the church once a week. Those who are interested are invited to come play Mahjong on Tuesdays from 10:00 a.m.-12:00 noon. All are welcome! Come join us to play or learn to play American Mahjong!

COUNTERS NEEDED

Subject: Counters Needed

Gerry Hayes has generously served as our primary Counter (to count our Sunday church offerings after church), and a few others have helped count for a particular month. In fairness to Gerry and to have more people with this expertise, I'm asking for volunteers to contact me (either by email or phone) to sign up to do a month or two of counting during 2024. The most urgent needs right now are counters

for March and June, but we need counters for months beyond June as well. Gerry will provide the needed training to all new volunteers.

Thank you.

Doug Weed
weedd721@aol.com
(860)-707-6636

CALENDAR

Please note: The information in this calendar is based on the online calendar as of April 11.

SUNDAY, April 14

- **Membership Orientation Class at 9:30 a.m. in Pastor John's office**
- **Sunday School for all ages at 9:30 -10:20 a.m. in various classrooms**
- **Third Sunday of Easter Worship Service, in the Sanctuary and by Zoom at 10:30 - 11:30 a.m.**
- **A 200th Anniversary Event: Coffee Hour at 130 Main Street, in Old Wethersfield at 12:00 - 1:00 p.m.**

Rental at 5:00 - 8:00 p.m. in the FLC

MONDAY, April 15

Wordly Women Bible Study at 9:30 - 11:00 a.m.
in the Fireside Room

Rental at 4:00 - 6:30 p.m. in the FLC and Kitchen

Wordly Women Bible Study at 6:30 - 8:00 p.m.
in the Fireside Room

Rental at 7:00 - 9:30 p.m. in the FLC

TUESDAY, April 16

Morning Prayer at 9:00 a.m. in the Fireside Room

Meet for Mahjong at 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
in Old Fellowship Hall

Rental at 4:00 - 8:00 p.m. in the FLC and Kitchen

Church Council Meeting at 6:30 p.m.
in the Choir Room

Rental at 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. in Old Fellowship Hall

WEDNESDAY, April 17

Rental at 4:00 - 8:00 p.m. in the FLC and Kitchen

Rental at 6:00 - 10:00 p.m. in the Choir Room

Education Ministry Meeting at 6:30 p.m. by Zoom

THURSDAY, April 18

Creative Pastimes at 1:00 - 3:00 p.m.
in the Fireside Room

Rental at 4:00 - 8:00 p.m. in the FLC and Kitchen

Bell Choir at 6:30 p.m. in Old Fellowship Hall

Chancel Choir at 7:30 p.m. in the Music Room

FRIDAY, April 19

Rental at 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

in Old Fellowship Hall

Rental at 4:00 - 8:00 p.m. in the FLC and
Kitchen

Rental at 6:00 - 10:00 p.m. in the Choir Room

SATURDAY, April 20

Rental at 8:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. in the FLC and Kitchen

Rental at 12:00 p.m. in Old Fellowship Hall

Rental at 6:00 - 10:00 p.m. in the Choir Room

SUNDAY, April 21

- **Sunday School for all ages at 9:30 -10:20 a.m. in various classrooms**
- **Fourth Sunday of Easter Worship Service, in the Sanctuary and by Zoom at 10:30 - 11:30 a.m.**
- **Fellowship Coffee Hour at 11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. in the FLC and Kitchen**
- **Y.A.A.H.— Young Adult Activity Hour at 12:00 - 2:00 p.m. in the Cool Jude Youth Room and FLC**

**Just Come Anyway Book Club at 2:00 - 4:00 p.m.
in the Cool Jude Youth Room**

Rental at 2:00 - 5:00 p.m. in Old Fellowship Hall

CELEBRATIONS!

Birthdays

4/18 Kevin Pedneault

4/18 Scott Tinker

4/21 Joey DiMauro

Please contact Karen, Office Administrator,
if your birthday or anniversary is not included here
or if you have any changes and/or corrections to
these lists. Thank you.

Wethersfield United Methodist Church
150 Prospect Street
Wethersfield, CT 06109