



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

TIDINGS

Volume 23 issue 12

December 2023

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Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Cold weather is here, and with it comes the cold and flu season. My work in hospice has made me acutely aware of the increase in flu, Covid and RSV cases. I want to take this opportunity for us to remember our Christian duty to one another. We have folks in worship on Sunday mornings who are immune compromised or reside with people who are immune compromised. If you have been exposed to Covid, RSV, or the flu, please, please, please remain at home until you are no longer contagious. If you have no symptoms but have been exposed, please wear a mask when you come to church. And as always, if you went to church feeling fine, but later discover you caught something, let us know, so folks who sat with you can take appropriate precautions.

We do these things out of love for our fellow human beings. We are cautious out of an abundance of love. No one wants to go back to everyone wearing masks during the cold and flu season. We avoid that by making good choices. I hope all of you can receive this message in the spirit in which it was written... the spirit of grace and humility. I too sometimes forget that I need to be more careful. It is all of our responsibility.

Grace and Peace,
Pastor Dave Martin

Holiday Gifts for the Village Kids



Where real change happens®

Due to the large number of books donated by Barnes and Noble, this year the Village has

suggested that a gift package of pajamas, socks and underwear for each child would meet a **greater need**.

Please contact Linda to select a child to shop for. **If we have extra pajamas, socks and underwear they will be appreciated by the larger Village Program.**

Please return by Sunday, December 10th. *Thank you!*

**Contact Linda VanDine with questions or for more information.
Linda: 860-830-6841 or lindavandine@gmail.com

POTLUCK, TREE DECORATING & CAROL SING MONDAY, DECEMBER 11 — 6PM-8PM

Please plan to join us to celebrate the Christmas season by attending our **Fellowship Potluck, Tree Decorating and Carol Sing, Monday December 11th from 6PM-8:00PM.**

We will begin the potluck by lighting the tree and singing our grace before the meal (We Gather Together).

During dinner we will play Christmas music and invite everyone to participate in decorating the inside trees and putting up the Crèche. Bring your family and friends' and a dish to share.

Please contact Becky Harris @ 860-982-2718 if you would like to attend, but need transportation. We would be happy to pick you up so you can celebrate this joyous evening with us.

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.



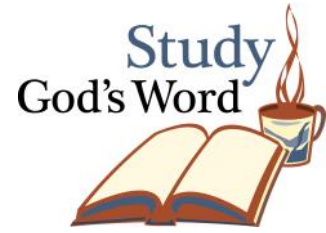
10 \$ 20 \$ 30 \$ 40 \$

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 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



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, gift cards, 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 5.

Please place your donations under the Memorial Room table or in the MACC basket and Judy Galligan will collect them.

We plan to fill the blessing bags on Wednesday, Dec 6th at 1:00pm.

Please reach out to Judy Galligan with any questions.

Judy Galligan: 860-646-0454

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)

NUMC Christmas Events!

—Christmas Service: **December 17 at 10:30am**

Carols, Cookies, Community!

We invite our members and sister churches to join us in caroling in Christmas together! We will be singing familiar and loved Christmas songs together as we share the message of God's love.

Elves optional!!



—Christmas Eve Service: **December 24 at 5pm**

Lessons and Carols with Silent Night by Candlelight

December Birthdays

2nd Liz Twarkins

4th Barbie Turley

6th Ron Starkweather

12th Pam Putinas

John Wilks

19th Heidi Lenhardt

24th Ray Gagnon

25th JESUS

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 December 14th 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.



*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.

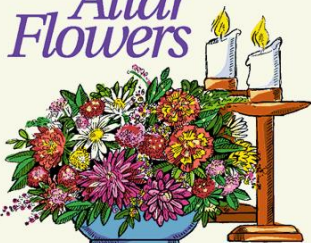
Ad Council Meeting

December 7th

7:00 pm



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. Meetings are on 12/04, 12/18. All are welcome! :)

The Knitting Ministry has continued to meet during the summer. We enjoy time for fellowship as we knit and crochet.

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.



Peace & Justice Meeting



**December
21**

**3:30 PM to
5 :00 PM**

at

North United Methodist Church



Online Giving

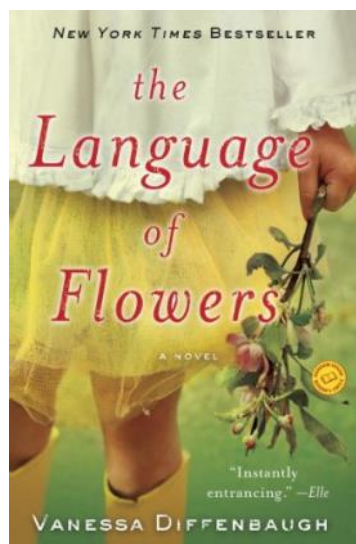
Online giving is available at:

<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!





NORTH CHURCH READERS

Our next book is titled "The Language of Flowers" by Vanessa Diffenbaugh. Copies are available in the Reference Room of the Mary Cheney Library.

We are changing the date of the meeting because NUMC has a speaker planned directly after church on the date we originally planned to meet, so the discussion of The Language of Flowers will occur after church on **Sunday, December 3**. The story tells us about Victoria Jones, who has experienced a difficult childhood in the foster-care system, in several different

homes. In one placement, she finds some happiness learning about flowers and the meanings flowers convey according to Victorian tradition. Once 18 and emancipated from the foster care system, she needs to find her way in the world of work and looks for a path forward through flowers.

Christmas Card Mailbox

The North Church Christmas Mailbox will be available starting December 3 for the exchange of cards with your church family and friends. The box is located in the back of the sanctuary and has slots organized alphabetically by last initial.

Please remember to check for cards you may have received each week.

The mailbox will be available until January 7th.

You are welcome to deliver cards to friends and neighbors who have not been present to pick up their cards.



Advent Candle Lighting

Each Sunday in Advent the Advent Candle on the altar is lit and a brief prayer is read.

Please consider signing up for a Sunday morning, with family or friends, to read the prayer and light the candle.

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 11:30 North Church Readers	1 pm Knitting Ministry 		1 pm Blessing Bags assembly 7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal 	7 pm Ad Council		
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
10:30 am Blended In-Person and ZOOM Online Worship	6-8 pm POTLUCK, TREE DECORATING & CAROL SING		7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal 			
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
10:30 am In-Person and ZOOM Online Worship Musical Christmas Service	1 pm Knitting Ministry 		7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal 	3:30-5:00 Peace & Justice		
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
10:30 am Blended In-Person and ZOOM at Wesley UMC 5 pm Christmas Eve Service	Merry Christmas!					
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
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.**

