



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

TIDINGS

Volume 24 issue 1

February 2024

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Dear Brothers and Sisters,

For the shortest month of the year, there seems to be a lot happening this February. We have Mardi Gras, Ash Wednesday, lent, Presidents Day, Valentines Day, Groundhog Day, and it's a leap year!!!!!! Not to mention what is happening at church. The signs of a healthy church are not huge numbers of butts in the seats on Sunday morning. It's not collection plates overflowing with money. Don't get me wrong.... These things would be nice too. The signs of a healthy church are active members. Not just any activity, but activity with purpose. Fellowship is extremely important in that it is a supportive and loving presence we each offer to one another. The Apostle Paul often wrote about that in his letters. Trustee activity is important. It's a sign of faith that there is a future at a church. If people don't envision a future, then why paint bathrooms, trim trees, repair broken glass, put in new rugs, and all of the other little things that get done? And of course, we can't forget mission and outreach. Our faith is not an inward facing circle, but an outward facing one. We can fearlessly stand with our backs to each other because we have supreme confidence that our church friends "have our backs." And, as we look outward with courage and hope we face a world that is weary, sick, war torn, and in desperate need of Good News. A church that has no mission outside of itself is not a healthy church, no matter how many people sit in the pews, no matter how good the music program is, no matter how much money they have. Those things are fleeting. Paul reminds us that faith, hope and love are what last, and the greatest of these is love. Love is what calls us to the outward facing mission. Do we have the courage to look outside?

Grace and Peace,
Pastor Dave Martin

Pancake Potluck

Monday, February 12

6:00pm at NUMC



Bringing something to share is not required. We would love to see everyone attend! Please bring friends and family too!

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

February 14: Ash Wednesday Service
6pm at NUMC

March 24: Palm Sunday Service

March 25: Upper Room Meal

March 29: Good Friday Service 7pm

March 31: Easter Sunday

Liturgists Needed

We are open and worshipping together again! We are seeking liturgists to share the Word each Sunday. Please consider joining this meaningful ministry. Sign up in the Memorial Room.



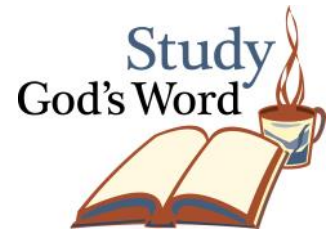
10 \$ 20 \$ 30 \$ 40 \$

Counters Needed

As we work our way back to normal, I am asking for volunteers to become counters. New counters or returning counters are wanted.

The job is usually straightforward and is a great way to serve North Church. Please talk to Jackie Abbott or email me at jabbott814@aol.com 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



Homelessness Resources This Winter

We've wrapped up another calendar year and recently completed our first month of the Cold Weather Shelter. It's no surprise that our shelter quickly filled to capacity, and our current numbers show we faced an approximate 25% increase in homelessness in 2023 compared to 2022.

If you, someone you know, or someone you encounter is homeless or facing immediate homelessness, please have them reach out to 211 for immediate help locating an available shelter or warming center. They can also reach out to 860-647-8003 ext. 131, and I will assist them in navigating the complexities of understanding their options.

-Timothy Bohr
MACC Community Outreach and Emergency Services Manager

MACC Services

The **Community Kitchen** is open,
giving out hot lunches on Tuesdays,
Wednesdays & Thursdays.

Bag lunches are available on
Mondays, Fridays & Saturdays

Lunch is served between **11:30am &**

12:45pm each day (no appointment necessary)

You can reach the kitchen @ **860-647-8003 x 21**



The **Community Emergency Food Pantry** provides
groceries by appointment only. Please call **860-647-8003 x 28**

The **Community Threads Thrift Shoppe** hours are Mon
through Fri 10am – 2pm and Sat 10am – 1pm

860-647-8003 x 29

For **Community Outreach and Emergency Services**

Please call **860-647-8003 x 31**

**Food donations can be dropped off at the Community
Emergency Food Pantry, located at 460 Main St. in
Manchester, CT Monday through Thursday 9am-4pm
and Friday 9am-2pm (or call to schedule a time).**

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

MACC EMERGENCY NEEDS ITEMS

- Beans (Canned, All Beans: Black Brown, Red)
- Beef Stew (Canned)
- Chili (Canned)
- Cleaning Supplies
- Condiments: ketchup, mustard, mayo, salad dressing, etc.
- Cooking Oil
- Flour
- Fruit (Canned)
- Ground Coffee (Regular, Decaf, Instant)
- Hygiene Products for adults and children: Soap, shampoo, body wash, deodorant, wipes etc.
- Instant Potatoes (Not Mashed)
- Jelly
- Mac & Cheese
- Pasta
- Produce (Fresh Produce Mondays – Thursdays ONLY)
- Soups (Canned, All)
- Stuffing (Boxed)
- Sugar
- Vegetables (Canned)

4th Annual



TACKLING FOOD INSECURITY ONE BOWL AT A TIME



**Pre-Order Now! Call 860-647-8003 .ext 113
or pre-order online!**

Pick-up will be drive-thru only
466 Main Street, Manchester (Community Kitchen)
Date: Saturday, February 10th from 9 am - 12 pm



Scan to Pre-Order



macc-ct.org/souper-bowl-of-caring-2024/



Scan to Pre-Order

All proceeds go directly to the Community Emergency Food Pantry and Community Kitchen

Tackling Food Insecurity One Bowl At A Time!

Pick-up will be drive-thru only

466 Main Street, Manchester (Community Kitchen)

Date: Saturday, February 10th from 9 am – 12 pm

Support MACC this year by participating in our Annual Souper Bowl of Caring Fundraiser. We have two tasty competitors this year! Soup One is Chef's Famous Chicken Corn Chowder and Soup Two is Chef's Classic Tomato Bisque. Support MACC and your favorite soup team by ordering now.

Pre-order by phone and call 860-647-8003 .ext 113 or order online by scanning the QR code! All proceeds will support the MACC Community Kitchen and Community Emergency Food Pantry as they continue to tackle food insecurity in our community.

Pre-order ends Wednesday, February 7th so order now!

February Birthdays

8th Sarah Turley

11th Doris Timbrell

14th Adam Lenhardt

18th Jonathan Cadman

19th Tim LePore

21st Nicholas Lenhardt

25th Dianne LePore

26th Dave Harris

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

February 1st, 15th and 29th

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

Volunteers are needed to monitor the building during the drives.

Please sign-up in the Memorial Room to help out.



Questions may be directed to Rev. Martin.



*REMINDER

**Please wear name tags
every Sunday.**

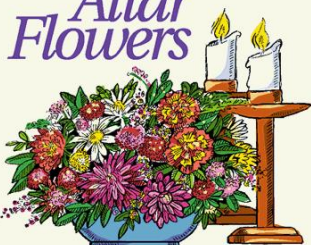
Anyone in need of a name tag, please note it on the back of your attendance slip on Sunday morning and one will be made for you.

Ad Council Meeting



TBD

Altar Flowers



Flowers are a wonderful way to acknowledge the Memory of a Loved One or to Celebrate a special person or occasion. Consider what you may have to offer, fresh and seasonal are especially nice. *Forms are available in the Memorial Room to make such requests.*

If you have any questions or prefer to order by phone, **please contact Makayla Houle at 860-707-6895**

Overcoming MS - Manchester, CT Circle

This MS support group focuses on living well with MS using the Overcoming MS program that includes diet and lifestyle changes in addition to medications. This group is open to people with MS and their care partners.

The group typically meets on the third Monday of the month at 5:30pm and alternates between Zoom meetings and face to face meetings at local restaurants or parks.

Please reach out via email to Vickie Hadge at vlhadge@yahoo.com for more details!



Knitting Ministry

Our NUMC Knitting group's schedule has meetings held on Mondays from 1:00pm-2:30pm in the Memorial Room on 2/05, 2/19, 3/04, 3/18, 4/01, 4/15, 5/06, 5/20, 6/03, 6/17.

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

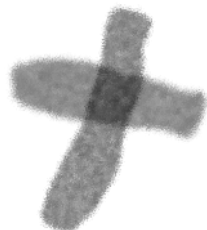
Our group is open to all with or without yarn skills. Contact:
Paula Adamczyk anthony.adamczyk@snet.net or Susan
Derby susanderby@cox.net with questions.



Ash Wednesday Service

Wednesday,
February 14

6:00 pm



Online Giving

Online giving is available at:

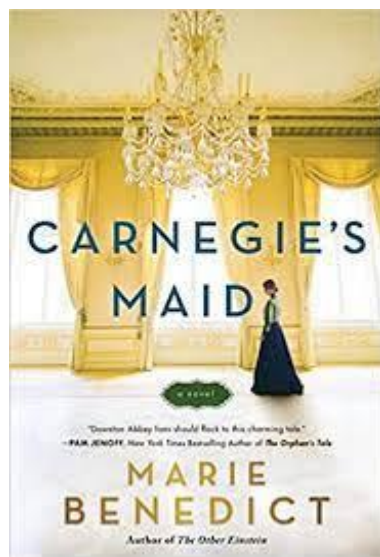
<http://www.simplechurchgiving.net/northumc>
or scan the QR code shown below to go to the site. Set up an account and conveniently schedule your routine giving. Never miss

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



Attention North Church Readers: Our next book selection will be led by Judy Galligan and is scheduled for Sunday, Feb 18 after church. Books are available in a marked section of the reference room of Mary Cheney library. We will be discussing **CARNEGIE'S MAID** by Marie Benedict.

Clara Kelley is a poor Irish farmer's daughter in America, desperate to get work to help support her family. She's mistaken for a woman of the same name who doesn't appear at a scheduled interview in Pittsburg for a maid. She is intelligent and resourceful, but being a lady's maid in the Andrew Carnegie home requires skills she doesn't have. And the mistress of the house rules her sons and domain with an iron fist. But Clara is determined to succeed and possesses an amazing understanding of the business world. Andrew starts to rely on her, and she may be the impetus for his change from ruthless businessman to a true philanthropist.

Discussion will be in the library after worship February 18th.

Music Ministry Minute













Dear North Church Family,

As we look forward to a fresh new year in our music ministry I wanted to thank all those who, through hours and hours of dedication and hard work, bring lovely music into our Sanctuary each Sunday morning. For many, music helps the mind open up to experiencing worship. Our choir facilitates this journey in our faith. We have been through so much together, especially during the past three years. Many churches have had to shutter their music ministries for lack of support and interest in the difficult task of rebuilding. During covid, the necessity of using technology rather than people made us more isolated and willing to accept a recording over a human voice. Like the idiom 'the right hand giveth while the left hand taketh away', we have been blessed with more informational wealth at our fingertips than ever before in human history, but we risk losing our community and our sense of togetherness if we become simply spectators in our own lives.

January is usually the time of resolutions and challenges. 'Let's improve ourselves; let's lose weight, learn a language', etc. I would offer up the challenge, 'let's make music!' Let's bring our families back to church and let's participate in worship again! I realize that not everyone can commit to joining the choir, but if you can shake a stick you can probably play the tambourine! Let us hear your voices in what you wish to hear again. Bring those song suggestions. Let us in the choir loft be reminded that you are invested with us in the music at North Church. We are your music ministers; your servants- and in order to serve you best we would love to hear from each of you!

And now for our usual plug: we rehearse from 7 to 8:30P on Wednesdays and are in need of singers, instrumentalists, you name it!

Thanks for listening!!!

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

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.**

