



Volume 17, Issue 10

At a Glance...

UMW Meeting

11/1 at 7pm

End of Daylight Savings Time

11/6



Men's Club Dinner

11/7 at 7pm

Advent Bible Study

11/10-12/15

Advent Auction

11/12 at 4pm

Visitation Meeting

11/13 after church

Book Club

11/15 at 7:30pm



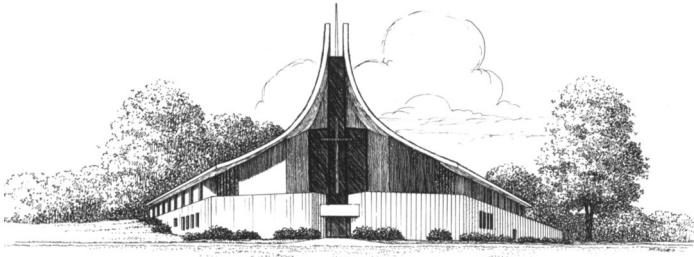
HAPPY THANKSGIVING

11/24

No Sunday School

11/27

THE FLAME



The United Methodist Church of Danbury

Message from Pastor Kim

Seven steps to becoming a more Welcoming Congregation

For quite some time now, our Welcome, Evangelism, and Membership Team (formed just last year) has been giving attention to the matter of how we welcome people at our church. By “people” I mean that we strive to be welcoming to everyone, but it is our goal to pay special attention to extending a warm welcome to our visitors.

We would all love to see our church grow. Research on church growth over the past 10 years consistently shows that most people who visit churches “church shop.” In other words, people typically try out several churches before settling on one where they feel comfortable. Research on growth also shows visitors make up their mind about whether they will come back a second time within the first 10 minutes. Keeping this in mind, it becomes very important for us to be sure we make a good first impression upon our visitors.

For some time now, the WEM team has been posting a rotating group of greeters at the front door to be sure all new visitors are properly greeted. However, it has become clear to us that if we truly want people to feel welcomed, **EVERYONE** will need to take part in that process. This is a ministry that must belong to all of us. I know we all want our church to grow, so I am confident each of you will want to take part in this important task. We absolutely cannot afford to let visitors slip through our hands because we have not paid attention to be sure they have been made to feel comfortable and welcome.

Rev. Betsy Ott, our district superintendent, reminded us the other night that all churches consider themselves “friendly.” It’s not enough to be friendly, Rev. Ott stated. A church must have what she called a program of “intentional hospitality” in which all church members plan to be part of welcoming ministry.

(Continued on page 2)

(Continued from page 1)

Here are some ways in which each and everyone of us can be a part of the welcoming ministry at the UMC of Danbury.

First, everyone should wear their name tags every week. Rev. Ott stated that congregations that wear name tags give a clear signal that it is not an “insider’s” group, but is open to all.

Second, remind yourself as you enter the narthex that you are a potential greeter every week. In the narthex and in the sanctuary, look around to see whether there is anyone you haven’t seen before. If so, be sure to greet them and introduce yourself. Simply say, “Hi, welcome. I’m Sally Jones. What’s your name?”

Third, during the Passing of the Peace, please look all around you to be sure everyone is being greeted. Walk away from your normal area to greet someone if they are standing by themselves or if you think they are new.

Fourth, during fellowship, look around and be sure a visitor is not standing by themselves. A visitor that is left standing alone for a long time during fellowship is not likely to find our congregation a hospitable place. If someone is standing by themselves, approach them, introduce yourself, and ask a few questions: Where are you from? Have you lived here long? Then, introduce them to one of your friends at church.

Fifth, when it comes to greeting, it is the simple things that really matter. A smile and a “How are you” (even if you can’t remember someone’s name), go a long way.

Sixth, if you see someone back the next week, be sure to greet them warmly again. If someone comes back three times, that is a very good sign. Here is a test to see if you have been watching for visitors:

There is a young couple who have visited us the past four Sundays. They typically sit in the center section, in the back. They also typically leave right after the service and do not stay for fellowship. Have you noticed them? If not, keep an eye out for them this coming Sunday. If we are fortunate enough to have them visit a fifth time, please be sure you take time to say hello and introduce yourself.

Seventh, if you would like to take a turn being one of our “official greeters” at the front door, please see Kim Goodwin or Pastor Kim.

Thank you in advance for all that we hope you will do to help make our congregation a more “intentionally” welcoming place.

Blessings,
Pastor Kim





NOVEMBER WORSHIP SCHEDULE

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 6
ALL SAINTS SUNDAY
25TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

9:30AM SUNDAY SCHOOL FOR ALL AGES
10:30AM WORSHIP - HOLY COMMUNION
PASTOR KIM PREACHING
PRESENTATION OF AASTA MOSHER AWARDS

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 13
26TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

9:30AM SUNDAY SCHOOL FOR ALL AGES
10:30AM WORSHIP
PASTOR KIM PREACHING

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 20
THANKSGIVING SUNDAY
27TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

9:30AM SUNDAY SCHOOL FOR ALL AGES
10:30AM WORSHIP
GUEST SPEAKER: KAITLIN ROIG
“CHOOSING HOPE”

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 27
FIRST SUNDAY IN ADVENT

10:30AM SUNDAY SCHOOL ON BREAK FOR
THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY
ADVENT WORSHIP
LIGHTING OF CANDLES

CHILD CARE IS PROVIDED DURING OUR SERVICES
JOIN US FOR COFFEE AND FELLOWSHIP IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING WORSHIP



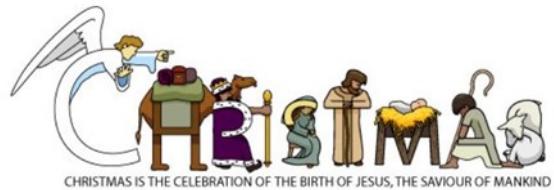
Advent begins November 27: The season of Advent, which comes from the Latin word adventus meaning “coming” or “visit,” begins four Sundays before Christmas and ends on Christmas Eve. Advent is the beginning of the liturgical year for Christians.

Although we are accustomed to celebrating Christmas on a single day, in both Christian tradition and on the Church calendar, the Christmas season lasts sundown on December 24 (Christmas Eve) through Epiphany of the Lord (January 6). This is sometimes popularly referred to as “the twelve days of Christmas.”

<http://www.umc.org/topics/topic-advent-and-christmas>

Sunday School News

November 6th we will have a Holiday Party during our regular Sunday school time, starting at 9:30 a.m.
 Everyone is welcome!
 We will be making Holiday cards . Join us.



There will be **no Sunday school on November 27th**, which is the weekend after Thanksgiving.



Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes are due on or before November 20th

Operation Christmas Child is a mission through the Samaritan's Purse organization. It involves packing shoeboxes with gifts that are then sent out all over the world and presented to needy children in demonstration of God's love in a tangible way and to share the Good News of Jesus Christ.

How can you participate? There are 6 easy steps.

1. Use an empty cardboard or plastic shoebox.
2. Decide whether your gift is for a boy or girl and the age category:
 ages 2 – 4; 5 – 9; or 10 - 14. **Please **make a note** and place inside the shoebox with the gender and age category of the child you have bought for.
3. Fill the box with a variety of gifts that will bring delight to a child. Select a quality “wow” toy, like a doll, ball or stuffed animal, and then other fun toys, hygiene items and school supplies.
4. . Include a \$7.00 donation to cover shipping and other costs related to delivering shoeboxes overseas.
Please write any checks out to the church and keep with the shoebox when dropping off during coffee hour. Or if you choose to give online, www.samaritanspurse.org, you can discover the destination of your shoebox.
5. Pray. Ask God to use your gifts to show His love to the child who will receive your shoebox.
6. Bring your gift to the church on or before November 20th. We will bring the shoeboxes to a drop off location that afternoon.

There are information sheets in the narthex.

If you have any questions, please call *Lorena Tesbir, Sunday School co-chairperson at 203 733-0125.*



THANKSGIVING: In 1621, the Plymouth colonists and Wampanoag Indians shared an autumn harvest feast that is acknowledged today as one of the first Thanksgiving celebrations in the colonies. For more than two centuries, days of thanksgiving were celebrated by individual colonies and states. It wasn't until 1863, in the midst of the Civil War, that President Abraham Lincoln proclaimed a national Thanksgiving Day to be held each November.

<http://www.history.com/topics/thanksgiving/history-of-thanksgiving>

Highlights of Children's Sabbath 2016

Children of Promise: Closing Opportunity Gaps



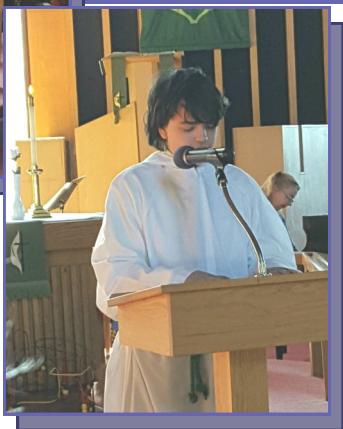
Presentation of his
Bible to our 3rd grader,
Aiden



Mary Lou shared a special story for our
Children's Sermon.



Thank you to Musa,
Jacob and Minnie for
being a part of the
service.



WELCOME to our newest member, Benjamin.



Children's Sabbath at the United Methodist Church of Danbury

The United Methodist Women sponsored a special service on Sunday, October 23rd. "The 2016 National Observance of Children's Sabbaths® Celebration, "Children of Promise: Closing Opportunity Gaps" focused on closing opportunity gaps due to poverty and lack of access to high-quality early childhood development and a high-quality education so that every child can reach their God-given potential. For that to happen, we as people of faith need to stand tall within our communities and push our nation to keep our promises of love and justice, equality and dignity for all. " *Children's Defense Fund*

Our service was greatly enhanced with special prayers, readings and music. Thank you to everyone who helped with, or participated in, this Children's Sabbath.

Trustees Report

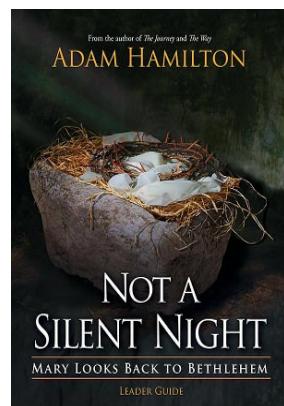
October 5th Trustee Meeting Discussions:

Space Usage Request: Casa de Oriaco, a small developing church, has been using Room 8 for their services on Monday and Saturday evenings. They have made a space request for use of the sanctuary as well. Larry Bornemeier reported on their current usage of the building, noting some of the problems which need to be corrected. At present, they are donating \$160 a month for their current usage. After discussion, a decision was made to ask for \$400 for use of Room 8 and the sanctuary (heat not included). We also need them to secure child care for the children of their congregation. Exceptions for our own use of the sanctuary on Saturdays for Holidays and church events would need to be documented. We also recommend that a 60 day trial period be documented to insure that our facilities are properly utilized.

Insurance Claim update: There has been no settlement forthcoming from The United Methodist Insurance Company (not affiliated with the church at large). Larry asked us to consider two options; contacting the CT State Insurance Board or contacting a lawyer to consider our case. Larry has saved reports and items from the damage to back up our claim for the column damage. A motion to pursue legal action was made by Chuck Vietrogoski and seconded by Don Lombardo. It was decided that Larry contact Danbury Attorney Jerry Hecht to see if he would represent us.

Plaque for Church Sign: Larry presented a bid for a Rosemarie Feeley memorial plaque to be placed on the new church sign. After discussion it was decided that we continue to look for a stone base. Chuck Vietrogoski agreed to do this.

Larry Bornemeier, Chairman of Trustees



Advent/Christmas Bible Study Not a Silent Night: Mary Looks Back to Bethlehem

Please prayerfully consider joining us in spiritual preparation for Advent/Christmas. Take a break from the hectic commercialism of the season and reflect on the true meaning of Christmas.

Pastor Kim will be leading a 5 week study beginning on Thursday, Nov. 10 and concluding on Thursday, Dec. 15. This is one week later than originally advertised. Each session will include a video presentation, a Bible study, and group discussion. Participants will gain a new perspective on the beloved Christmas story and its connection to Christ's life, death, and resurrection.

No prior knowledge is required. Everyone is welcome. Let's journey together to Bethlehem.

“Thanksgiving is inseparable from true prayer; it is almost essentially connected with it. One who always prays is ever giving praise, whether in ease or pain, both for prosperity and for the greatest adversity. He blesses God for all things, looks on them as coming from Him, and receives them for His sake- not choosing nor refusing, liking or disliking, anything, but only as it is agreeable or disagreeable to His perfect will.”

— John Wesley, How To Pray: The Best of John Wesley on Prayer

Outreach

Christmas Basket for Dorothy Day Shelter

This year Christmas Eve falls on a Saturday and I will be with my friends that are homeless. I would like to bring a basket of gifts for them. There will be a basket in the Narthex to be filled with items that can be given to the homeless on Christmas Eve. The basket will be there from **Nov 27 to Dec 24**. I will be picking up the items before going to the shelter on the 24th.

Here is a suggested list of items that will be of use to them:

Gloves	Hats
Scarves	Combs

Chocolate or other candy

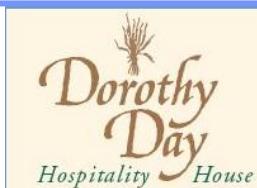
Dunkin Donut gift cards

Small memo pads, pencils and pens

Pocket size tissues

Gently used backpacks

If you have any questions please ask *Bev Anderson, home 203-746-4800.*



Update on Dorothy Day

Dorothy Day Meeting Oct 24, 2016

There was a meeting held this evening to go over the “concept” that the mayor has come up with to address Danbury’s homeless population.

His "concept" is to have a building in Danbury that would provide beds for 40 adults, a kitchen, dining room and offices for people offering services to the homeless.

Our job last night was to see what impact this concept might have on the people Dorothy Day serves.

The volunteers that attended the meeting had some concerns and a document was sent to the mayor with 26 questions and concerns to be answered before any further discussion would take place.

The meeting was held so that volunteers would be as informed as possible when the “concept” becomes news in Danbury. If anyone has questions I will do my best to answer them.

Bev Anderson, Mission and Outreach chairperson



Thanksgiving Food Bag Project

It is time for our annual Thanksgiving Food Bag Project. The tradition of our church is to fill a grocery bag with all the ingredients for a Thanksgiving dinner, except the turkey (we include a gift card for that!) The bags are distributed to families in our community that will benefit from our efforts.

Bags and a suggested grocery list will be available in the narthex the **first Sunday in November**. Please consider participating to help make this outreach project a success. You may want to work with a friend to fill a bag, do one as a family or as an individual. It is a wonderful opportunity to demonstrate our commitment to serve our community and share our blessings.

If you have any questions, please call me at 203-743-4342. Your support and generosity is greatly appreciated.
Grace and Peace, *Phyllis Tranzillo*

United Methodist Women

On **Tuesday, November 1st, at 7PM**, there will be a United Methodist Women's Meeting in the community room of *The Palace View Apartments* located at 132 Main Street in Danbury. (From Main Street turn right at Bank Street. *The Palace View* is on the left. Please enter at the back of the building. (It is a ground level entry, and there is room for parking.) There will be a dessert social following the meeting, Shirley Fogle and Karlene Lombardo are the hostesses for this event.

Beverly Anderson will give a presentation about her experiences at Mission U. (**PROGRAM: CHARTER FOR RACIAL JUSTICE POLICIES**) There will be a time of worship, fellowship and also a short business meeting. This meeting is open to everyone. Please feel free to bring a friend.

Please make every effort to attend.

If you have any questions, or need a ride, contact *Karlene Lombardo* at 203-743-1260.

Wesley Heights Christmas Wish List 2016

It is getting to be that time of year again and I have received a letter, from Cathy Nickse, Chaplain, United Methodist Homes, asking for donations for Wesley Village.

They will be collected **November 6th to November 27th** in the Narthex at church.

- * Monetary donations for: beauty shop-\$12.00
resident outing-\$10.00
- * Health and Skin Care Products: bar soap, liquid soap, toothpaste, dental floss, mouthwash, lip balm, tissues, hand sanitizer and eyeglass wipes.
- * Writing Supplies: pens and pencils, note paper, greeting cards, and stamps.
- * Large print books, large print word search books and books on CD's – love stories, novels, mysteries.

This program has been renamed "Miracle on Long Hill Avenue", because our gifts are the foundation of minor miracles. A complete list of Christmas Wish items is located on the UMW bulletin board near room 3.

Any checks should be made out to **United Methodist Homes**. Please, be generous.

The gifts will be delivered to Shelton.

Faithfully yours,

Karlene Lombardo , UMW President (203-743-1260)

There will be a visitation committee meeting on **November 13th**, right after church in Room 3.

Thanksgiving is fast approaching and it is time to sign cards for the shut ins. Let us be thankful that we are able to provide our service by extending phone calls, visits or cards. Remember, by doing this it makes us feel good that we are doing the work of the Lord.

Please don't forget to put in your orders for the apple and pumpkin pies that the Holy Rollers will be making...**See you on the 13th....**

Val Stagen, Visitation Committee Chairperson



United Methodist Church of Danbury Invites you to our Advent Auction



**Saturday, November 12
4:00pm**

Food - Fellowship - FUND Raising

Admission - Dessert to Share

Please RSVP to danburyumc@sbcglobal.net



**4:00pm
Appetizers -Wreath Making
Holiday Music
Silent Auction Opens**

**5:00pm
Dessert
People Treasure Hunt
Silent Auction Continues**

**5:30pm
LIVE AUCTION
Silent Auction Closes**

Please join in on the FUN!

Best Wishes and God's Blessings
To those celebrating birthdays in



Jennifer Cashel	11/1
Marge Underhill	11/1
Craig Dibble	11/3
James Kunicki	11/4
Penny McKown	11/9
Kevin O'Shea	11/15
Emily McWilliams	11/18
Joyce Morrison	11/21
Barbara Kunicki	11/23
Jade Cain	11/24
Julius Rouse	11/25
Elaine Zahara	11/26

The Evening Book Club

Pot Luck Dessert and Book Review
(And a lot of socializing!)

The next meeting of the UMCD Book Club will be **Tuesday, November 15**, 7:30pm in the Fellowship Hall of the church.

We are encouraging everyone to bring a pot luck dessert.

This month's selection is **Without Reservation** by Jeff Benedict.

This is the perfect month to join us.

All are welcomed.

United Methodist Men

UMM meet the 1st Monday of each month
at 7pm

*for comradery, good food,
and interesting discussions.*

Please join us for November's dinner
November 7 at 7PM

The Cook House, 31 Danbury Rd, New
Milford

For more information contact Zeke Zahara at



Kaitlin Roig-DeBellis to Speak at our Church

We are pleased to announce that Kaitlin Roig-DeBellis has accepted an invitation to speak at our church on **Sunday, Nov. 20**, during our worship service. Kaitlin spoke during one of our Book group sessions and has a powerful message to offer about overcoming adversity and the power of hope.

Kaitlin is the author of Choosing Hope, and the founder and Executive Director of Classes for Classes, Inc., a 501 c(3) organization whose mission is to actively engage students in learning kindness, compassion and empathy through their ability to create positive change for others.

Kaitlin's story comes from her experience at Sandy Hook Elementary School—she is the first grade teacher who miraculously saved all of the children in her classroom.

For those who don't know, Kaitlin also grew up in our church and is the daughter of Pat and Kathy Roig.

REMINDER OF SCHEDULES FOR NOVEMBER

	Nov. 6	Nov. 13	Nov. 20	Nov. 27
Counters	Carla Pierce	Phyllis Tranzillo	Myra Tesbir	Kathy Roig
	Don DeMouth	Will McWilliams	Norma Bucko	Kevin O'Shea
Scripture Readers	Chris Russock	Carol Spaulding	Rev Kim Bosley	Phyllis Tranzillo
Prayer Leaders	Barbara Kunicki	Rev Kim Bosley	Mark Pierce	Beverly Anderson

Like UMC of Danbury on Facebook!

An easy way to let others know about all the good things going on at UMC of Danbury is to LIKE us on Facebook.

Go to www.facebook.com/danburymethodist and click on the "Like" button at the top of the page. Then, in the box that appears, click on "All Notifications". This will ensure that you see updates and photos posted to our page...Thanks!

If you are not currently receiving our newsletter by email or know someone who might like to receive it, please let the church office know!

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The United Methodist Church of Danbury

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A Safe Sanctuary for Children

Ministers: The Congregation

Pastor: Kimberly A. Bosley

Associate Music Director: Carol Spaulding



This November Flame was made possible by:
Editor Kathy O'Shea
Contributors Pastor Kim, Karlene Lombardo, Beverly Anderson, Larry Bornemeier, Val Stagen and Patti Cohen-Hecht

Deadline for the December 2016 Flame is November 22

Email: danburyumcflame@sbcglobal.net