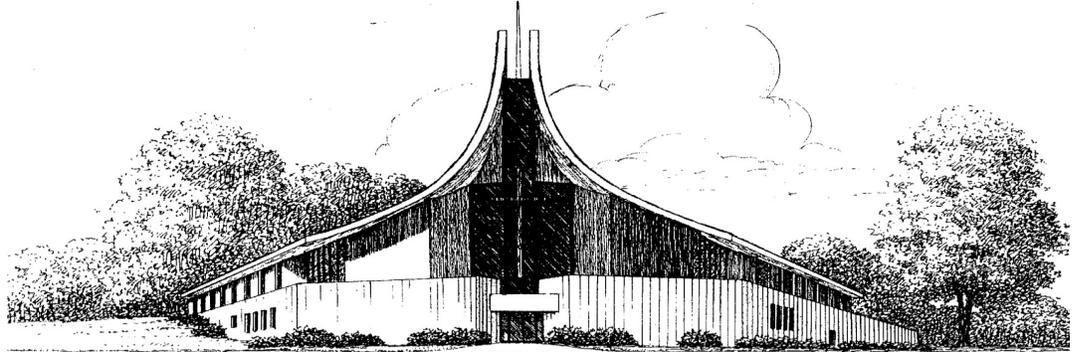




UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF DANBURY

THE FLAME

VOLUME 18
ISSUE 1
FEBRUARY
2017



FEBRUARY EVENTS

EVERY THURSDAY
6:00pm Thursday Night
Life Dinner



Wednesday, February 1
6:00pm Chapel Bells

Thursday, February 2
7:00pm Bible Study
7:15 pm Choir Rehearsal

Monday, February 6
7:00pm UMM Dinner @
3 Brothers Diner in New Milford

Tuesday, February 7
7:00pm Trustees Meeting

Wednesday, February 8
6:00pm Chapel Bells
6:30pm SPRC Meeting
7:30pm Church Council

Thursday, February 9
7:00pm Bible Study

Saturday, February 11
12:00pm Dorothy Day

Wednesday, February 15
6:00pm Chapel Bells
7:00pm ASP Meeting
7:15 pm Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, February 16
7:00pm Bible Study
7:00pm ASP Meeting

Monday, February 20
UMCD Office closed for
President's Day

Tuesday, February 21
7:30pm UMCD Book Club

Wednesday, February 22
6:00pm Chapel Bells
7:15 pm Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, February 23
7:00pm Bible Study

WORDS OF WISDOM FROM PASTOR KIM

On Sunday, January 8, Epiphany Sunday, we took time during worship to recognize our church leaders whose terms were completed at the end of 2016. Each outgoing leader was given a certificate of gratitude for their many efforts in serving our church. We wish to again offer our gratitude to the following persons who have so faithfully served our church:

Chris Russock
Larry Bornemeier
Minnie Rouse
David Zeigler
Sue Teer
Barbara Kunicki
Jim Teer
Kathy O'Shea
Larry Bornemeier
Mary Lou Heyel
Kathy Roig
Shirley Fogle
Phyllis Tranzillo

Administrative Council Chair
Trustee Chair
Lay Leader
Lay Leader
Financial Secretary
Music and Worship Chair
Lay Member to Annual Conference
Staff Parish Relations
Board of Trustees
Board of Trustees
Communications Chair
Nominations and Personnel Committee
Interim Sunday School Superintendent

Part of the grace that leadership in the church involves is that we strive for "servant leadership" – putting our egos aside and focusing our efforts on the good of the Christian community. Our capacity to do this helps to ensure that the transition from one leader to another is smooth. Many thanks to our outgoing leaders for all their efforts to work with our new leaders for the good of our church.

Welcome to the following persons who were elected to new leadership/committee positions at our fall Charge Conference.

Lay Leader
Ad Council Chair
Trustee Chair
Finance Secretary
Lay Member of Conference
Education Chair
Music and Worship Chair
Nominations/Personnel
Staff Parish Relations
Board of Trustees
Parsonage Committee
Long Term Planning

Chris Russock
Phyllis Tranzillo
Chuck Vietrogoski
Patrick Curran
Bev Anderson
Minnie Rouse
Bishop Rouse
Karlene Lombardo, Myra Tesbir, Mark Pierce
Lucinda Johnson
Carlos Ferreira, Sue Teer, Peter Eaton
Jim Teer, Marge Undersell, Audrey Cain
David Zeigler, Barbara Kunicki, Phyllis
Tranzillo, Brian Spaulding, and Keith Goodwin

Pastor Kim



THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Thomas J. Bickerton, Resident Bishop | New York Area Episcopal Office
Robert M. Walker, Assistant to the Bishop | Cheryl A. Fortune, Administrative Assistant to the Bishop

20 Soundview Ave., White Plains, NY 10606 | 914-615-2221 | bishop@nyac.com

Dear Friends & Colleagues,

A few weeks ago I made my way to New York City for a meeting. As has become my routine, I drove to the White Plains train station to catch my ride. When I pulled into the parking garage, there were plenty of empty spaces. The only problem was that each one of them had the same message: “Metered Parking. Permit Only. All others towed.” Six floors of empty spaces and one message: “You can’t park here.”

I didn’t panic because I knew that the seventh floor had an unrestricted section where anyone could park. However, when I arrived on the seventh floor I quickly discovered that all of the unrestricted spaces had been taken. There was no room for me.

After several attempts and a few missed trains, I finally found a spot some distance away from the station. All I wanted to do was catch the train that would take me to the place I wanted to go.

My own minor encounter with exclusion pales in comparison with the recent Executive Orders to close our borders and build walls. It’s one thing to not be able to find a place to park and catch a train. It’s another to apply that circumstance to someone’s family and life. All they want to do is catch the train to a better life, a life filled with hope, healing, and possibilities to become a fuller expression of who they were created to be.

The hope for healing and possibility is at the heart of who we are as a people of faith. In the Old Testament we are told in Leviticus and Deuteronomy that we are to treat the foreigner as our native born, to leave food for them, and to “love those who are foreigners, for you yourselves were foreigners in Egypt” (Deuteronomy 10:18-19). In the New Testament, Jesus was constantly inviting in the loners, losers, and lost ones of the world and imploring his followers to respond favorably to those around us. “Just as you did it to one of the least of these, you did it me,” was his plea (Matthew 25:40).

When the church was established, they quickly began to use the word “sanctuary” to describe the most sacred part of the religious building. The “sanctuary” was a safe place, a refuge from the storm, a haven for protection from the forces at work around us.

Today we find ourselves immersed in a struggle where our President has declared that there is no room for the foreigner, no place for hope of a greater life, no sanctuary from the storm of life, no opportunity to catch the train to a better life. These decisions are separating families, dismantling communities, and creating a greater division among us that only adds to the discord we feel and the conflict we sense emerging around us.

I believe that we tend to operate most days with a short-term memory. It was not all that long ago that seven brothers immigrated to the United States to find a better life. Four of the brothers settled in Pennsylvania. Three of them to West Virginia. Their names were Bickerton. It was not all that long ago that a man brought his wife and young child through Ellis Island from Syria and began working in a produce warehouse along the Ohio River. His name was Cassis. It was not long ago that a child of the Bickerton family met a child of the Cassis family and fell in love. They married and began to build a life together. They named their first son Tom. I would not be here today had it not been for a place that welcomed the immigrant, provided a place for them to seek employment, and encouraged them to build a life within the bounds of our borders.

My story is not unlike countless numbers of other stories that bear witness to the what really made America great. It welcomed those who were struggling to find their way and offered them the hope of a better life.

That’s where we come in. It is time for us to be the church that we profess we are. While we cannot change Executive Orders that oppress and alienate, we in our churches can create an atmosphere of grace and a posture of love that points to a better way.

I would encourage all of you to take to heart the biblical mandate that has been proclaimed in our churches for centuries. I would implore you to take seriously the word “sanctuary” and provide opportunity to make that word come alive in your context. I would ask you to consider what it means to create a story that is far different than the rhetoric we are being exposed to by those who currently have control of the microphone.



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Specifically, I would urge you to consider the following:

1. **Pray, Teach, and Preach**

Open the doors of your church to offer constant prayer vigils, provide resources for prayer at the altars of our churches, and have leaders present to pray for those who seek something more. We must create a climate among our people where they are seeking, in prayer, the will of God and the courage that God provides for us to play our part in the redemption of the world. Explore the scriptures and take leadership to offer words of guidance and hope based on the Word of God. Teach about how we, like Jesus and many others after him, can play a role in bearing witness to grace, hope and love for all of God's children. Preach about welcoming the stranger, feeding the poor, and including the ones who are left out. Remind your people that we were once foreigners and bridge the gap with the offer to love others as we ourselves have been loved.

2. **Walk the Streets**

It is time for us to take the word transformation more seriously. If we want to transform the world, we must be in the world we hope to transform. If all we do is pray and preach to those who make up our membership, we will have missed the grand opportunity to more intimately know the hungers and hurts of the people around us. I urge you to walk the streets of your community and discover where the hurts and fears reside. Go to places where you wouldn't normally go, speak a word that creates a pulpit of grace wherever you may be, ask questions about what the real needs are, and love, simply love, the ones who need a word of hope and healing.

3. **Consider becoming a "sanctuary"**

Our President has signed an Executive Order that will pull funding from cities that are sanctuaries. The church will not do the same. We need to identify, train, and equip churches throughout the New York Annual Conference to become sanctuary churches in the literal sense – places of refuge, protection, and safety. We will strive to do our part in the Annual Conference to resource and equip churches that make this decision. What we need today, however, are churches that are making the decision. There are dangerous storms brewing. Won't you consider becoming a refuge from the storm? If your church is willing to play this important role, please contact your District Superintendent and indicate your willingness to be trained and equipped.

This issue is not the only one facing us in these uncertain times. We must not forget about the positions taken and the actions carried out that are creating racial and gender biases which make children of God feel less than they were created to be. Our prayer and our intentional work must center around what it means to be hope to the hopeless, joy to the joyless, and love to those who are made to feel less than God created them to be. We must do this for all of God's children.

I want to play my part in truly making America great again. It all begins with providing a place to park and an opportunity to catch the train to a better life.

Won't you join me?
The Journey Continues . . .

Thomas J. Bickerton
Resident Bishop

FEBRUARY WORSHIP SCHEDULE



SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 5 **5TH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY**

9:30AM

SUNDAY SCHOOL FOR ALL AGES
VALENTINE'S PARTY

10:30AM

WORSHIP AND COMMUNION

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 12 **6TH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY**

9:30AM

SUNDAY SCHOOL FOR ALL AGES

10:30AM

WORSHIP

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 19 **7TH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY**

10:30AM

WORSHIP

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 26 **TRANSFIGURATION SUNDAY**

9:30AM

SUNDAY SCHOOL FOR ALL AGES

10:30AM

WORSHIP

CELEBRATION OF FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

CHILD CARE IS PROVIDED DURING OUR SERVICES

JOIN US FOR COFFEE AND FELLOWSHIP
IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING WORSHIP

VALENTINE'S DAY BAKE SALE



BAKERS! START YOUR MIXERS!

The Church Council is holding a Valentine's Day bake sale after church on Sunday, February 12. Here is that perfect time to pick up a sweet for your special sweetie! Cookies should be bagged 4 per bag. For more information, please contact Marcia Vietrogowski or Barbara Kunicki.



YOUR HELP IS NEEDED!

We have an opportunity to get gently used very nice office furniture for Pastor Kim's and

Patti's office. The furniture is free and is being donated by a company that Patti's sister works for in Armonk. But we do have to get the furniture here and set it up. The Trustees are organizing the following dates for this project. ***Please see Pastor Kim if you can help to move the furniture.***

FRIDAY, February 10 at 10:00 am: A crew is needed for a few hours to move the existing furniture out.

SATURDAY, February 11 at 8 am: A Crew of 10-12 is needed to go to Armonk to load the furniture and bring it back and set it up. The job should be completed by noon. Right now, we don't have enough people, especially for Saturday. Please let Pastor Kim know if you can help with either of these work crews.



APPALACHIA SERVICE PROJECT NEWS

We will be traveling to Appalachia again this summer to make homes warmer, safer and drier.

If you would like to learn about Appalachia Service Project (ASP) please attend the information session on Thursday, February 16 at 7:00pm at the United Methodist Church of Danbury.

These sessions are for youth or adults that may want to take part in this project. *The dates of this year's trip are July 1-9.* The meeting is also for parents who would like to learn more about ASP.

For more information please contact Don DeMouth at 203-730-8103 or visit our website at danburymethodist.org/asp.



Please join us for a Pasta Dinner to raise funds for this year's ASP trip.

It will be held on Saturday, March 4 at St. James Episcopal Church 4:30pm - 7:30pm



SHELTER FROM THE COLD

Thank you so much for all of the donations we received to give to our friends this winter. We received 75 pairs of gloves, 130 pairs of socks, 36 winter hats, 12 scarves, 80 hand warmers, tissues, lip balm, playing cards, games, and many personal care items.

A big thank you for helping to make this season a safer and warmer one!

On Christmas Eve, the youth group at the St. James AME church (where the evening program is) handed out backpacks to all the homeless. We had a great buffet and other wonderful treats and we watched Home Alone. Thank you again for your support!

Bev Anderson, Chair



VALENTINE PARTY

**Join us Sunday, February 5
for a pre-Valentine's Day Party
9:30am - 10:15 am**



We're making a blanket for Project Linus, an organization that gives blankets to children who are in need of comfort. We're also making Valentines. There will be breakfast treats. Everyone is welcome!

**THERE WILL BE NO SUNDAY SCHOOL
ON FEBRUARY 19
PRESIDENT'S DAY WEEKEND**



**The United Methodist Men
meet for dinner on the
1st Monday of each month at 7:00pm**

Please join them for comradery, good food, and interesting discussions on Monday, February 6 at 3 Brother's Dinner
79 Danbury Road, New Milford, CT

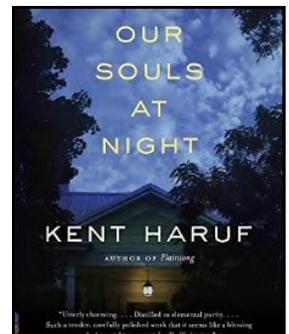


**The United Methodist Church Book Club
meets the 3rd Tuesday of each month.**

The next meeting will take place on Tuesday, February 21, 7:30pm in the Fellowship Hall of the church.

February's Book Selection:

**Our Souls at Night
by Kent Haruf**



Everyone is welcome to attend!



THURSDAY NIGHT LIFE MENU

**DINNER IN FELLOWSHIP HALL
6:00-6:30PM**

Thursday Night Life is an informal, affordable dinner served buffet style. Cost is only \$3 per person with a family maximum of \$15.

EVERYONE IS WELCOME!

- | | |
|-----------------------|-----------------|
| Thursday, February 2 | Chicken |
| Thursday, February 9 | Pasta |
| Thursday, February 16 | Roast Pork |
| Thursday, February 22 | Soup & Sandwich |



Altar Flowers

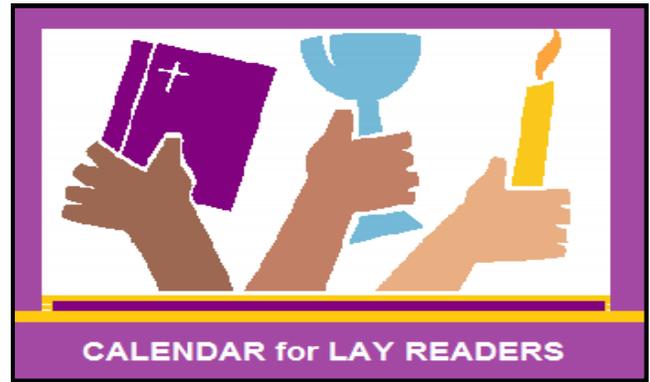
Please consider sponsoring the Altar Flowers for an upcoming Sunday. The cost to sponsor the flowers is \$25.00

This is a wonderful opportunity to honor your loved ones:

- Birthdays
- Anniversaries
- and Memorials

CONTACT VAL BOSE FOR MORE INFORMATION

203-744-5712



February 5

- | | |
|------------------|-------------------|
| Scripture Reader | Nathaniel Hornik |
| People's Prayers | Jim Davis |
| Counters | Phyllis Tranzillo |
| | Will McWilliams |

February 12

- | | |
|------------------|-------------------|
| Scripture Reader | Barbara Kunicki |
| People's Prayers | Pastor Kim Bosley |
| Counters | Myra Tesbir |
| | Norma Bucko |

February 19

- | | |
|------------------|-------------------|
| Scripture Reader | Pastor Kim Bosley |
| People's Prayers | Barbara Kunicki |
| Counters | Kathy Roig |
| | Sue Teer |

February 26

- | | |
|------------------|--------------|
| Scripture Reader | Joey Masood |
| People's Prayers | Carla Pierce |
| Counters | Carla Pierce |
| | Don DeMouth |



Ethel Rogers would like to THANK her church family for their thoughtful donations of ornaments and decorations for her Christmas Tree.

Dot Treadwell would like to THANK her church family for the beautiful cards, gifts and lovely visits.

**ETHEL AND DOT'S HOLIDAY SEASON
WAS MADE BRIGHTER BY YOU!**

thank you!



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** and **SHARE** 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**”. If you also click the “**Share**” button, you can help spread the word about our church with other Facebook users.

This will ensure that you will see updates and photos posted to our page.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY EMMA PAVAO!

Chris Russock, Ethel Rogers and Jack Pavao celebrated with Emma on her big day.

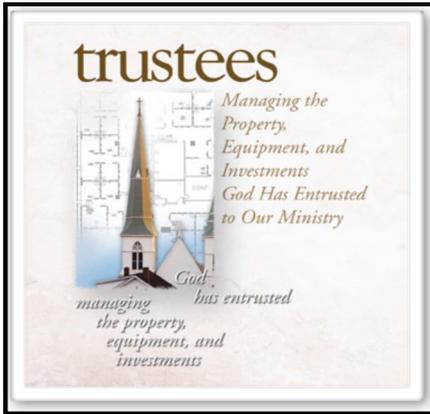


Seated: Emma Pavao and Ethel Rogers
Standing: Jack Pavao



Emma Pavao blowing out her candles

Photographs by Chris Russock



TRUSTEE UPDATE

NEW OFFICERS

The Trustees have elected the following Officers for 2017:

Trustees Chair - Chuck Vietrogoski

Trustee Recording Secretary - Sue Teer

Trustee Treasurer - Myra Tesbir

CHURCH CONCERNS

Trustees Chair, Chuck Vietrogoski will review the equity mix with the church's Frontier Foundation account and will see if it needs to be brought up to date.

On Friday, January 13, Mary Lou Heyel and Larry Bornemeier will meet with Steven Cloud, a manufacturers representative, for Mannington Carpet to measure and provide a quote to replace the Sanctuary carpet. Funds need to be raised for this project.

Pastor Kim informed the Trustees that there is an opportunity for us to get free new office desks and file cabinets from Trinity Packaging. If we do, the old furniture needs to be moved out. Chuck Vietrogoski will coordinate this project.

Roof Update

The beam project is paid for and the balance owed on the flat roof is \$26,721.42.

We are awaiting a letter from the attorney of the insurance company concerning the roof claim and our attorney's letter.

PARSONAGE CONCERNS

Parsonage inspection - Pastor Kim will advise when she is ready for this, perhaps a month or two. Jim Teer, Audrey Cain and Marge Underhill (the Parsonage Committee) will conduct the inspection.

Next meeting change of date to:

Tuesday, February 7 at 7:00.

LOCK UP

January - Sue Teer

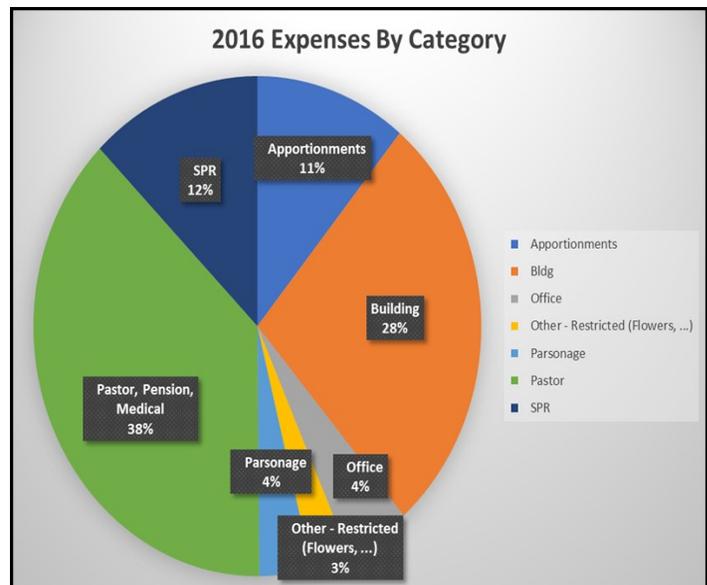
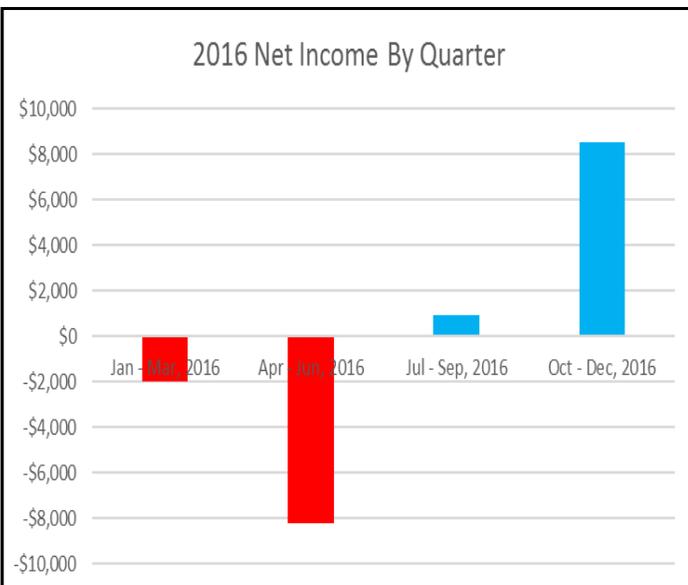
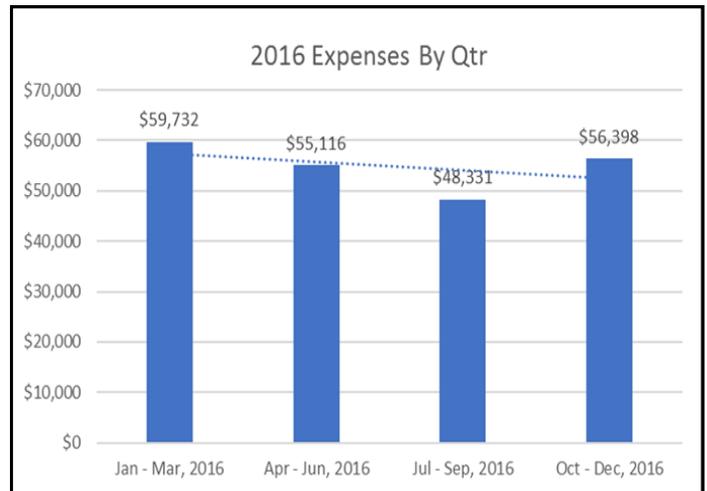
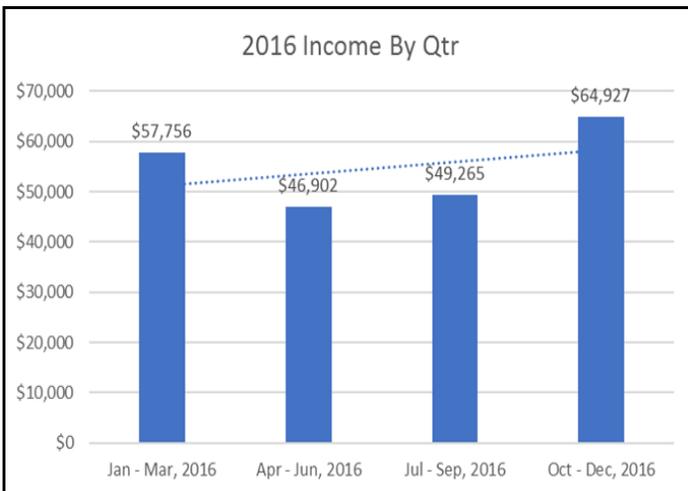


YEAR END 2016 FINANCIAL UPDATE

Danbury UMC closed 2016 with full year income of \$218.8K and expenses of \$219.6K for the operating budget. This represents a full year net loss of \$727 or effectively break-even on a full year basis. This is a very similar result as the prior year on both income and expenses with results within 2% of the prior year in both income and expenses. We remain current on all bills and have protected all restricted funds to date. In addition, we paid down over \$6.5K against the roof loan largely due to directed giving by the congregation. Thank you!

We have entered the expensive winter months where due to electric heat, plowing, etc we often struggle to pay weekly bills. Thanks to everyone for staying current with pledging! This remains critical to ensure we can cover weekly expenses.

Below are reports that show our Income, Expenses and Net Income by Quarter.



Holiday Gathering 2016
A great time was had by all!



Barbara Kunicki tickles the ivories



Deb Davis, Chris Russock and Ethel Rogers



Mary Lou Heyel, Joyce Morrison and
Karlene Lombardo having a lovely time.



Lois Bornemeier and Coralee DeMouth



***Dates of Upcoming
Season of Lent***



Wednesday, March 1



Sunday, April 9



Maundy
Thursday

Thursday, April 13



Friday, April 14



Sunday, April 16

**BEST WISHES AND GOD'S BLESSINGS
TO THOSE CELEBRATING BIRTHDAYS IN**



Thomas DeMouth	2/2
Rosemary Slater	2/3
Barbara Fulton	2/6
Myra Tesbir	2/6
Andrew Salamon	2/7
Adam Jasensky	2/14
Clinton McLeod	2/14
Jamie Grandison	2/15
Sue Teer	2/15
Bishop Rouse III	2/16
Pat Roig	2/21
Brittany Cormier	2/22
Maryann Slater	2/22
Maggie McAllister	2/23
Ginger Lourenco	2/25
Elizabeth Miller	2/25
Joan Ziegler	2/25
Kim Skidmore	2/27
Don DeMouth	2/28
Lucinda Johnson	2/28

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF DANBURY

Join us for a Traditional
Corned Beef & Cabbage Dinner
Friday, March 17



Continuous Servings from
5:00pm - 7:00pm
Fellowship Hall - Lower Level

COME ONE, COME ALL!

PRICES:

Adults	\$12.00
Seniors (65+)	\$10.00
Children (7-15)	\$ 8.00
Children (under 6)	\$ 4.00

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF DANBURY

5 CLAPBOARD RIDGE ROAD

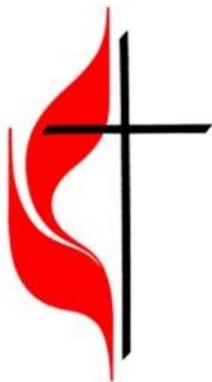
DANBURY, CT 06811

LOVE

Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud.

1 Corinthians 13:4-8

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF DANBURY



5 CLAPBOARD RIDGE ROAD, DANBURY, CT 06811

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EMAIL: DANBURYUMC@SBCGLOBAL.NET

MINISTERS: **THE CONGREGATION**

PASTOR: **REV. KIMBERLY A. BOSLEY**

ASSOCIATE MUSIC DIRECTOR: **CAROL SPAULDING**

CHURCH ADMINISTRATOR: **PATTI COHEN-HECHT**

FEBRUARY 2017 FLAME

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KEITH GOODWIN, CHRIS RUSSOCK, SUE TEER

DEADLINE FOR MARCH FLAME IS FEBRUARY 17.