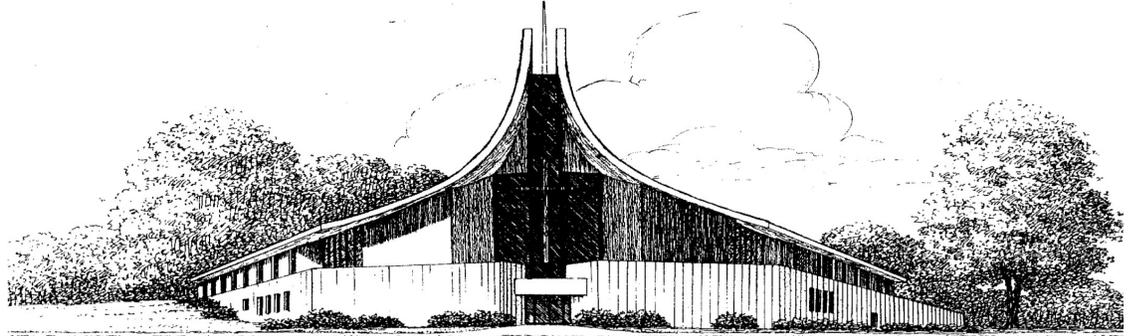




UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF DANBURY

THE FLAME

VOLUME 18
ISSUE 7
SEPTEMBER
2017



SEPTEMBER EVENTS

EVERY THURSDAY
6:00pm
Thursday Night Life

Monday, September 4
LABOR DAY
UMCD OFFICE CLOSED

Wednesday, September 6
6:00pm Chapel Bells
7:00pm Trustees

Thursday, September 7
10:00am Helping Hands
6:30pm Craft Group
7:00pm Pumpkin Fest
Committee Meeting

Saturday, September 9
12:00pm Dorothy Day Ministry

Monday, September 11
7:00pm UMM Dinner

Wednesday, September 13
6:00pm Chapel Bells
6:30pm SPRC
7:30pm Church Council

Thursday, September 14
6:30pm Craft Group
7:00pm Moses Bible Study

Tuesday, September 19
7:30pm UMCD Book Club

Wednesday, September 20
6:00pm Chapel Bells
7:00pm ASP Meeting

Thursday, September 21
6:30pm Craft Group
7:00pm Moses Bible Study

Monday, September 25
7:00pm Beatles Program

Wednesday, September 27
6:00pm Chapel Bells
7:00pm Finance Meeting

Thursday, September 28
6:30pm Craft Group
7:00pm Moses Bible Study

WORDS OF WISDOM FROM PASTOR KIM

Windows of Opportunity

Some years back, the United Methodist Church identified three “windows of opportunity” during which local congregations had the best opportunity to welcome visitors in a way that would encourage them to ultimately become members of the church. One of these “windows of opportunity” will soon be upon us: the beginning of the school year.

To this end, the Welcome and Evangelism Committee has met to consider all we need to do here at UMC of Danbury to be prepared. We will once again be sending out postcards to households around our church inviting persons who are seeking a faith family to join us for Sunday worship and Sunday school.

Let’s all begin praying now that our neighbors who need a church family will have open hearts and respond to our invitation. And so that is something we can all do: pray for a response to our invitation. And if people’s hearts are moved and we have the privilege of greeting them (and yes, greeting guests is a **privilege**), we need to be ready to greet them with warmth and hospitality. Would you invite guests into your home and not prepare your home to receive them? Of course not! Likewise, we need to be ready to receive guests who visit God’s House.

With that in mind, here are some simple do’s and don’ts as we prepare to welcome guests.

Do’s

1. Do wear your name tag. Churches who don’t want to cultivate a cliquish “insider” atmosphere have members religiously wear name tags (No pun intended).
2. Do go out of your way in the narthex and during the passing of the peace and especially during fellowship to greet persons you don’t know. You can keep it simple: “Hi, my name is Sarah. Welcome.” Talk with them for a few minutes, then introduce them to another church member.
3. Do offer a visitor or guest an invitation to sit next to you.
4. Do let a guest who is there with a child know we have childcare for children ages.
5. If you are sitting next to a guest, do invite them to please fill out the attendance sheet. If they do not complete this, remember we have no way to contact them to thank them for coming and invite them to come again.

(continued on page 2)

WORDS OF WISDOM FROM PASTOR KIM

(continued from page 1)

Don'ts (pretty much an inverse of the do's)

1. Don't ignore a guest during fellowship time. To leave a guest standing by themselves during fellowship is a huge missed opportunity.
2. Don't refuse to move if a guest tries to sit where you usually sit. If that happens, MOVE OVER and welcome them. Where you sit is not "your pew" unless you have paid for it.
1. Don't assume it is the greeters role to "take care of guests." If we want the church to grow, it is the role of all of us.

Recent examples of "the right thing to do."

We have been blessed in the last several weeks to have Alyssa, her baby daughter Brooke and her mother, Debora visiting us. They were "church shopping" and found us. Each week, they have been surrounded by many of you, welcoming them, talking to them, lavishing attention on the baby. Good work! I know they feel comfortable with us. Here's a question to consider: If a guest came alone, would you have given that person the same kind of attention? Our committee hopes so. Every guest deserves to be greeted with that kind of warmth and interest.

Last month, Shirley F., one of our committee members, noticed a woman sitting in her car before the service. Shirley took time to go over and introduce herself, and invite the woman to come in. Shirley's observation skills are a good model for all of us: our role as greeter begins in the parking lot. Notice what's going on around you as you arrive—both outside and inside. Remember: **TREAT ALL GUESTS AS IF THEY WERE GUESTS IN YOUR HOME. THEY ARE GUESTS IN GOD'S HOUSE.**

An Opportunity: Greeting is a ministry that any of us can do and all of us should do. Unless you are involved with choir or a Sunday school class, please become one of our greeters. We have a protocol of what greeters do each week. The Committee on Welcome and Evangelism will be providing an update and an annual meeting for greeters in September. A greeter greets only about every 5 weeks or so. Please sign up with Pastor Kim or Kim Goodwin.

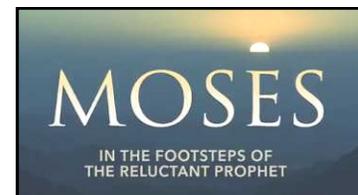
Blessings to each one of you as summer comes to an end and we prepare for fall. I am grateful for each one of you and for all that you do to make our church family as special as it is.

Blessings, *Pastor Kim Bosley*

MOSES:

IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF THE RELUCTANT PROPHET

Our fall Bible study this year will be a six week study, beginning Thursday, September 14 and continuing through Thursday, October 19.



Our study will focus on Moses, the single most important human figure in the Hebrew Bible. Through a study of Moses' life, we will come to better understand the defining story of the Jewish people. For Christians, Moses' life serves the backdrop of much that is found in the gospels.

Topics of the study will cover:

- ◆ The Birth of Moses
- ◆ The Exodus
- ◆ Lessons from the Wilderness
- ◆ Two Moments that Defined Moses
- ◆ The Ten Commandments
- ◆ Our Role: Don't Forget to Pass it On

Please sign up with Pastor Kim

JOIN US FOR
WORSHIP

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 3
13TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
9:30AM
WORSHIP - BEV ANDERSON, PREACHING

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 10
14TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
HOME COMING SUNDAY
9:30AM
SUNDAY SCHOOL FOR ALL AGES
1ST DAY OF SUNDAY SCHOOL
10:30AM
WORSHIP - BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 17
15TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
9:30AM
SUNDAY SCHOOL FOR ALL AGES
10:30AM
WORSHIP

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 24
16TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
9:30AM
SUNDAY SCHOOL FOR ALL AGES
10:30AM
WORSHIP

CHILD CARE IS PROVIDED DURING OUR SERVICES

JOIN US FOR COFFEE AND FELLOWSHIP IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING WORSHIP



THE WELCOMING AND EVANGELISM COMMITTEE AND THE CHURCH COUNCIL EXPLORE WAYS TO ENHANCE WELCOMING

Through a priority-setting activity, the group identified five key areas to enhance how we welcome visitors to our church. The conversation started with an overview of why we should care as well as an overview of Evangelism. Here is a summary of the session.

WHY SHOULD WE CARE ABOUT EVANGELISM AND WHAT IS IT ANYWAY?

The mission of the United Methodist Church is to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. Evangelism is then the sharing of the Gospel to make disciples. Evangelism can be broken down into three areas: Inviting, Welcoming and Finding a Home. The group focused on Welcoming. To set the scene, Pastor Kim shared the research that notes that, overall, churches are in decline. From Millennials finding church outside the 'typical' building/schedule to the new norm of attending church only twice a month, the current trend is lower church attendance, with some churches combining or even closing their doors. The UMC of Danbury is passionate about welcoming our community to worship and growing together. We have therefore developed the Welcoming and Evangelism committee to ensure our church continues to thrive.

THERE ARE FIVE KEY AREAS OF WELCOMING THAT THE GROUP IDENTIFIED AS KEY FOR OUR CHURCH.

Through the use of stickers to indicate the level of improvement needed, the group identified these five areas of focus:

- ◆ Nametags
- ◆ Greeting time
- ◆ Attendance books/Visitor information
- ◆ Explanation of each workshop element
- ◆ Making room for visitors



HERE ARE THE ACTIONS AND NEXT STEPS, MANY ARE ALREADY UNDERWAY.

NAMETAGS. We will ensure our Greeters remind us all to wear our nametags, and we will ask repeat visitors if they want a name tag as well. We have gotten out of the habit and so we agreed to all wear our name tags. We hope you will join us.

GREETING TIME. The group thought the greeting time was sufficient at Fellowship time, and wanted to regularly have us all greet each other at the start of service. Pastor Kim will regularly welcome visitors at the start of service and we agree we will give a small gift to visitors. We need everyone --- when you see a visitor, please greet them and introduce them to others. Make sure they are not sitting by themselves.

ATTENDANCE BOOKS/VISITOR INFORMATION. We agreed we need to regularly ask visitors to fill in the clipboard page so we can reach out to them.

EXPLANATION OF EACH WORSHIP ELEMENT. To make it easier for visitors, Pastor Kim will welcome the visitors; introduce herself at the start of service, as well as announcing the hymnal and the time for the Children's session during worship.

MAKING ROOM FOR VISITORS. We are creatures of habit and therefore like to sit in our 'regular' seat. As we want to be welcoming, if a visitor sits in your seat, please let them sit there.

We are so pleased and thankful for the Ad Council's engagement and energy in the session. Not only did we identify some key actions that will help us be more welcoming, but we had fun.

***Note: We are having a Greeter Refresher in September
all are welcome as we experience the 'Art of Greeting'.
(Date to be announced)***

BLESSINGS,

THE WELCOMING AND EVANGELISM COMMITTEE

**CORALEE DEMOUTH
MINNIE ROUSE
LUCINDA JOHNSON**

**CARLA PIERCE
KATHY ROIG
KIM GOODWIN**

**ALLISON KENT
SHIRLEY FOGLE
PASTOR KIM**



craftgroup

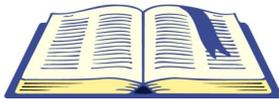
CRAFT GROUP IS STARTING UP AGAIN. JOIN US!

Join us on Thursday evenings at 6:30 pm in Fellowship Hall and work on various crafts to sell at our Pumpkin Festival. We are an informal group and would appreciate extra hands on any of the following meeting dates.

Also, please share any new craft ideas (especially with a fall theme) you may have. We are always looking for new crafts to add variety to the craft table at the Pumpkin Festival. We will meet on Thursdays, September 7, 14, 21, 28 and October 5.

If you have any questions or new craft ideas, please contact Coralee DeMouth at 203 730-8103.

Men's **Bible Study**



Please come join Marti Foster and Jim Teer at 9:30am Sunday mornings in Room 3 for Bible study and discussion. The session is informal and we enjoy learning more of the Bible with interesting discussions to better understand what the passages meant when they were written and what they mean to us today.

*This is not a Sunday School class.
There are no tests or homework!*

We study the Old and New Testaments. Books we have studied include Genesis, Exodus, Psalms and Acts. We also use supplemental materials, other Bible versions and the Internet to enhance our discussions.

*Learn how we are, to quote Jones UMC:
"Shaped by God's word, Serving God's World".*

EARN.SAVE.GIVE.

Wesley's Simple Rules for Money

EARN. SAVE. GIVE.

You're probably used to hearing people in church talk about giving. But when was the last time in church that you talked about earning or saving? Is it unchristian to earn money? Is it wrong to save for ourselves and our families?

John Wesley didn't think so. Wesley, the Christian evangelist and founder of the Methodist movement, gave a remarkable sermon called "The Use of Money." In it, he said that the important thing isn't money itself but how we use it. Wesley's surprising advice still rings true today: *earn all you can, save all you can, give all you can.*

During the month of October, our church will experience an exciting new stewardship program,

Earn. Save. Give:

Wesley's Simple Rules for Money, developed by popular author and Pastor James A. Harnish. We are again including with this campaign a daily devotion for your use at home.

*Our stewardship campaign will start
Sunday, October 8, 2017
and run the following 3 Sundays,
ending with consecration
Sunday, October 29, 2017
and a celebration Lunch in
Fellowship Hall.*

Carla Pierce
Stewardship Chair



CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

ON THE CASE OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

One of the things that I have seen over the years is what we learn in Sunday School, VBS, Youth Group and Worship becomes the basis of our faith and strength throughout our lifetime. When tough times come, and, yes, they come, it is the faith stories of the Bible, the recall of the favorite scripture and the relationship with God that sustains us. It is never easy to face a new day on our own. It is much more difficult to face any day that is full of fright and mayhem.

When we learn of God, how much He loves His people and how He looks after us, we realize that we are not people of fear. Rather, we are conquerors, we persevere. We don't give up and we don't give in.

How do we make sure our children and grandchildren don't succumb when things get difficult? How do we assure that our friends and neighbors have an anchor during the storms of their lives?

Think about it. What worked for you? Bring them to a Bible study, a Sunday School class, a VBS, a Youth Group. Bring them to church, after all, life is happening.

In Love,
Minnie Rouse
Education Chair



HAPPY NEW SCHOOL YEAR!

Your teachers are looking forward to seeing you all the Homecoming for Sunday School registration Sunday, September 10 at 9:30am in the Pink Room.

So you think you mastered Bible Jeopardy? Don't worry, we'll think of a way to stump you along with your teachers. We'll have a light breakfast too.

For those Middle and High School students who find it difficult to get up on Sunday mornings or maybe even have to work, we have something new for you. How about meeting with our newest teacher, Darren Cain, from 4:00-5:00pm on two Sunday afternoons a month? Talk with him to make these gatherings your own. Got a cause you feel strongly about? Maybe your friends here can help. Want to get outside and explore, lets plan something? Do you need time away to forget about school pressures and talk about it, we'll listen and support you.

This new Sunday afternoon youth program, will be in addition to the Junior/Senior High Sunday School, which will meet as usual at 9:30am.

We hope you had a wonderful summer break and look forward to hearing all the amazing things you saw, heard and did. Bring us a few pictures or trinkets from your travels and experiences.

**Looking forward to seeing
you all at the Homecoming!**

Kim Cain-Moreira & Lorena Tesbir
Co-Superintendents of Sunday School



**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, September 11 at 7:00pm
99 Restaurant & Pub
80 Newtown Road, Danbury, CT



COVENANT TO CARE

I was pleasantly surprised to find more backpacks and several bags of supplies waiting for me on the final day of our Backpack Project. To be truthful, I was a little concerned because up to that point, I was only able to put together 10 backpacks. I should have known better!

I delivered 17 filled backpacks to our social worker at the Department of Children and Families to be distributed to students in need.

Being well prepared to start a new school year sets students on a path to success. Your generosity helped to do just that. You can just imagine the smiles and excitement as the students unpacked their gifts.

I am very grateful to all of you who participated through monetary donations or donations of backpacks and /or supplies. I would especially like to express my gratitude to the United Methodist Women whose generous support allowed me to take advantage of the sales and therefore provide for more students.

Thank you, thank you, thank you all!

We show our love and God's love when we reach out to those in our community who are struggling. We become a blessing to them and the very act of reaching out becomes a blessing to us.

With gratitude and love,

Phyllis Tranzillo



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

The May meeting will take place on **Tuesday, September 19, 7:30pm** at the United Methodist Church. Minnie Rouse will serve as hostess

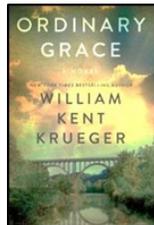
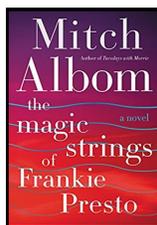
Book Selections:

***The Magic Strings
of Frankie Presto***

By Mitch Albom

Ordinary Grace

By William Kent Krueger



Everyone is welcome!



The next United Methodist Women's meeting will be Sunday, October 22, 2017, from 2:30-4:00pm in Fellowship Hall at the church. The program will be: "Reaching Out to Others". We will explore how we can help other service organizations in our midst. The Charter for Racial Justice will also be observed.

There will be a dessert social following this meeting. Please bring any **Labels for Education** to this meeting. (We will be mailing out collected labels after this meeting.) For more information please contact Karlene Lombardo at (203) 743-1260 or lombardodk@gmail.com



HENDERSON SETTLEMENT

The UMW mission spotlight will again be on Henderson Settlement in Frakes, Kentucky for the remainder of 2017. We are continuing to collect **Labels for Education**. (These are on Campbell's products, Pepperidge Farm products, Post cereals, Dannon dairy products, Glad storage products, BIC, etc.) The collection of these labels from Methodist churches around the country allows them to get "free stuff" for their programs. This is a great way to help others. Start clipping and saving now! Our local unit also sends a monetary gift each year to the settlement.

JEAN WALKER AWARD

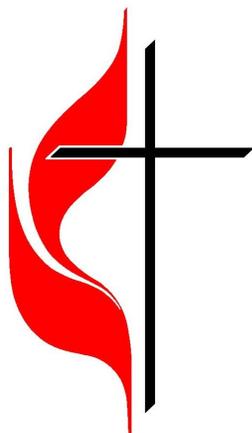
The Jean Walker Award was recently established by the Budget Committee of the United Methodist Women of Danbury, Connecticut. This Special Membership Award will be given to a woman, in our church, to recognize exemplary, long-term support for the programs and mission goals of our UMW unit. It will be awarded when it is appropriate. It is not designed to be an annual award. It will serve to honor the memory of Jean Walker who gave her time and talents unselfishly to the United Methodist Women.

Jean Walker guided the United Methodist Women of Danbury throughout her years as Treasurer for our unit. She upheld the principles, mission goals and the Purpose of the UMW. She faithfully managed our finances and maintained our position as a Five Star Unit. Her high standards and commitment enabled us to grow as a community of United Methodist Women within our church. She was also the Secretary for the CT/NY District United Methodist Women. She recognized the abilities in others. She often reached out and guided many women to assume leadership positions. She fiercely defended programs for women, youth and children. She worked diligently to raise funds to aid us in our mission goals. Without her faithfulness and her love for the United Methodist Women we would not be the viable unit we are today.

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF DANBURY

5 CLAPBOARD RIDGE ROAD, DANBURY, CT

**SPIRITUALITY AND CHRISTIAN THEMES
IN THE MUSIC OF THE BEATLES**



MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 25

7:00PM - 8:30PM

Led by Rev. Steven Peiffer,

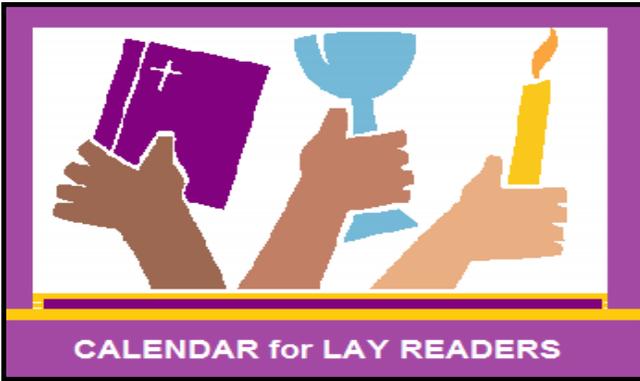
*Pastor, First United Methodist Church, Wallingford, CT
(and friend and colleague of Pastor Kim)*

Program description:

The ubiquitous and innovative melodies, harmonies, and lyrics of one of the most popular classic rock-n'-roll groups will be explored for their theology and Christian influences and themes. Thirteen Beatles songs will be played in full, with a brief presentation after each song, and time for group discussion.

**Come join us for an evening of Beatles music,
fellowship, and interesting discussion.**

**Advance registration is not required,
but it would help us to have enough handouts.
Please let Pastor Kim know if you plan to attend.**



September 3

| | |
|------------------|---------------|
| Scripture Reader | Shirley Fogle |
| People's Prayers | Carla Pierce |
| Counters | Star Auer |
| | Sue Teer |

September 10

| | |
|------------------|-------------------|
| Scripture Reader | Mary Lou Heyel |
| People's Prayers | Pastor Kim Bosley |
| Counters | Carla Pierce |
| | Don DeMouth |

September 17

| | |
|------------------|-------------------|
| Scripture Reader | Pastor Kim Bosley |
| People's Prayers | Mark Pierce |
| Counters | Phyllis Tranzillo |
| | Will McWilliams |

September 24

| | |
|------------------|-------------------|
| Scripture Reader | Barbara Kunicki |
| People's Prayers | Phyllis Tranzillo |
| Counters | Myra Tesbir |
| | Norma Bucko |

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



| | |
|------------------|--------------|
| Brian Miller | September 1 |
| Benjamin Zahara | September 1 |
| Peter Hornik | September 8 |
| Robert Bose | September 9 |
| Marcia Lowe | September 11 |
| Anthony Mazza | September 11 |
| Valerie Bose | September 15 |
| Ann Mitchell | September 15 |
| Amanda Clark | September 16 |
| Ashley Clemens | September 16 |
| Kathy Roig | September 21 |
| Deana Skidmore | September 24 |
| Minnie Rouse | September 26 |
| Edward Clark | September 27 |
| Michael Rogowski | September 27 |

PUMPKIN FESTIVAL NEWS

SAVE THE DATE: SATURDAY, OCTOBER 7

VOLUNTEERS AND DONATIONS NEEDED

- During the week of October 7, Mark Pierce will be going to Southbury to pick up our pumpkins. If you have a truck, van or SUV, please contact Mark if you can help to transport the pumpkins.
- Please consider donating the following items for the Festival Café:

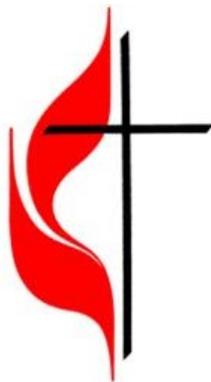
| | | |
|------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Bottles of Water | Cans of Pepsi and Diet Pepsi | Cans of Ginger Ale |
| Juice boxes | Napkins | Small (6") paper plates |
| Barbeque sauce | Cans of chopped clams | Ketchup-Mustard-Relish |
- Volunteers are needed to set up the Tag Sale Room during the week of October 2-6



BOOKS FOR THE PUMPKIN FESTIVAL

Start sorting your books for the festival now. We are ready to accept them in Room 1 at the church. Please place them on the shelves. If you have a box of books leave it on the floor, in front of the shelves. We are accepting all kinds of books, non-fiction, fiction, mysteries and children's books. You may also donate DVD's, CD's and audio books. Our own very special book table will be set up the third week in September. Everyone loves to browse and buy at the Book Room. For more information please contact: Karlene Lombardo at lombardok@gmail.com

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF DANBURY



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MINISTERS: **THE CONGREGATION**

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

ASSOCIATE MUSIC DIRECTOR: **CAROL SPAULDING**

CHURCH ADMINISTRATOR: **PATTI COHEN-HECHT**

LAY LEADER: **CHRIS RUSSOCK**

SEPTEMBER 2017 FLAME

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DEADLINE FOR OCTOBER FLAME IS WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 2017.