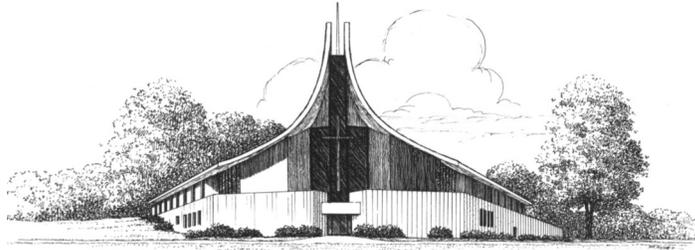




Volume 16, Issue 1
January, 2015

THE FLAME



The United Methodist Church of Danbury

At a Glance...



Thursday Night Life

Dinner at 6:00PM
(Fellowship Hall)

Dorothy Day

Sat., the 10th at noon

Church Council

Wednesday, the 14th
7:30PM



ASP Council

Wednesday, the 21st
7:00PM

Message from Pastor Kim

The Coming Season of Light

Candles are a major fixture of our lives. Candles adorn our altar. We love them in our homes. Scented, plain, white or multi-colored, candles add a lovely touch to our church and homes.

But why do we light candles? We could list all kinds of reasons, but for centuries now the light of even a single candle has represented a flame in the darkness.

The church Season of Epiphany is upon us. This season starts on January 6, when we remember the visit of the Magi to the Christ child, and continues for six weeks until Ash Wednesday. The liturgical color for Epiphany is white and its ongoing theme is Jesus Christ as the light of the world. Epiphany, like Advent, is a time of lighting candles. During these dark days of winter, candles symbolize the joyous news proclaimed in the gospel of John: "The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it."

We are all well aware of the darkness and despair in the world. May we offer a prayer by lighting candles of hope. We know that there is fear and there is war. May we offer a prayer by lighting candles of courage and peace. We know that there exists in our world a deep longing for connectedness. May we offer a prayer by lighting candles of love, to pierce the darkness, to lift one another's spirits, or to remember a loved one.

All of us were asked at Christmas to prepare to receive Jesus Christ in our hearts. Carrying that theme forward into the coming season of Light, the most important candle any of us can light this Epiphany season is the one in our hearts. May the light of Jesus Christ continue to fill us with wonder and hope.

Pastor Kim

Worship Schedule for January

Our New Style of Worship begins January 11th at 10:30 in Fellowship Hall.

January 4 Epiphany Sunday
 9:30 Sunday School for all ages
 10:30 Worship with Holy Communion;
 Pastor Kim preaching.



January 11 2nd Sunday in Epiphany (Baptism of our Lord)
 9:30 Sunday School for all ages
 10:30 Worship in Fellowship Hall;
 Pastor Kim preaching.

January 18 3rd Sunday in Epiphany
 9:30 Sunday School for all ages
 10:30 Worship in Fellowship Hall;
 Pastor Kim preaching.



January 25 4th Sunday in Epiphany
 9:30 Sunday School for all ages
 10:30 Worship in Fellowship Hall;
 Pastor Kim preaching.



Child care is available Sunday mornings.
 Our morning worship service is followed by a time of fellowship in the Narthex.

*Best wishes and God's blessings
 to those celebrating*



Eileen Shaw	1/3	Sharon Barrigas	1/19
Andrew Spaulding	1/4	Musa Masood	1/22
Sandra Irving	1/7	Roger Warmbir	1/22
Kristian Clemens	1/13	Norma Bucko	1/23
Travis Gebing	1/13	Kaitlyn Gebing	1/26
Carrie Tesbir	1/13	Colin Pierce	1/29
Hannah Foster	1/14	William Grandison	1/30

December Outreach

Thanksgiving dinner was a great success! Movies were watched, puzzles done, games played, pictures taken and lots of food eaten! Anthony offered our dinner prayer and then shared a “rap” poem about Thanksgiving at his grandmother’s house. Sandwiches were made with the leftovers and we delivered them to the shelters.

25 presents were delivered to the **Salvation Army** on December 15. There will be some happy children Christmas morning!

December 20 was the annual **Christmas dinner at Dorothy Day**. Marcia and Chuck Vietrogoski brought sausage & peppers, penne ala vodka, chicken marsala, garlic bread and salad for us to feast on! It was a wonderful dinner! They sent me to church with a thank you note for Marcia and Chuck, I believe that at least 60 people signed it!



Thursday Night Life January Menu

Jan 8	Pork Roast, vegetable, salad
Jan 15	Soup, sandwich, salad
Jan 22	Turkey and all the trimmings
Jan 29	Tacos, quesadillas and salad

**BRING A FRIEND FOR
A BOUNTIFUL \$3 DINNER**

6:00 pm
Fellowship hall



Trustees

Larry informed us that he obtained estimates from two roofers, Barrett Roofing at \$55,000 and Main Roofing for \$63,700. He will also get an estimate from Quality Roofing.

The Ross Solar Group contacted us and advised that the solar heat generated from panels would not cover both the sanctuary and the classrooms and they would be back with another proposal. The classrooms would be heated with ductless units. We are checking into finance sources for this system including grants and/or a loan from Union Savings Bank. There is also a Conference site called Parish Development that could lead us to a source of funding.

The new doors have been installed in the west wing.

Heating in the office was corrected by the installation of a new relay (thank you to Zeke).

Part of a CD (\$7,981.41) was put in Danbury Savings Bank at the rate of 1.23 percent. The remaining \$7,500 was put into Frontier Foundation (no rate given).

A special thank you to Jim Teer for installing window insulation on all windows!

- Larry Bornemeier

Thank you from Pastor Kim:



Dear friends,
I want to express my gratitude to you for your very generous Christmas gift! Your kindness and generosity to me at this special time of year means a great deal and has truly touched my heart. As we begin a new year, please know that my prayer for each of you and our entire church family is for the blessings of health and peace.

Grace and peace in the name of Jesus Christ!
Pastor Kim

United Methodist Women

On Wednesday, December 17, 2014 twenty-five women attended the United Methodist Women's holiday gathering at the home of Valerie Bose. A lovely pot luck dinner was enjoyed by all. Minnie Rouse prepared and led a meaningful time of devotion. Valerie Stagen provided the cards and gifts to be distributed to persons on the Church Visitors List. Spirits ran high during the lively gift exchange. The highlight of the evening was the piano music by Barbara Kunicki. Thank you to all who attended and provided so much to the festivities.

At this meeting cocoa packages were collected for the Shelter from the Cold Program. Twenty-five dollars and a very large box of needed items were collected and delivered, on December 8th, to the United Methodist Home in Shelton as part of their "Wesley Village Christmas Wish Program". At this time seventeen hats and twelve pairs of gloves or mittens have been collected for the Interfaith Early Learning Program. Thank you ladies for your dedication to mission.

- Karlene Lombardo



Saturday, February 7th is the ASP Pasta Dinner at St. James Episcopal Church. ASP, or Appalachia Service Project, is a youth mission trip to Appalachia to make homes Warmer, Safer and Drier for needy families. Dinner will be served by the youth taking part in the trip.



Come out for dinner and help support the trip!!

2014 CHURCH/CHARGE CONFERENCE SYNOPSIS

ELECTION OF OFFICERS FOR 2015

...the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control.

If we live by the Spirit, let us also be guided by the Spirit.

Galatians 5:22-23, 25

We had a productive, Spirit-filled **Church/Charge Conference** on September 20, 2014. 22 church members attended. District Superintendent Betsy Ott affirmed the focus of the conference to be the attributes that members are to cultivate as disciples of Christ in order to minister to one another and to a world that is needy and hurting. She stated that these attributes—the fruit of the Spirit—are manifest in a healthy church. However, their cultivation requires diligence, determination, and a commitment to remaining grounded in God's plan. Rev. tt spoke of the need to nurture and cultivate discipleship and the church's ministries in order to yield the fruit of the Spirit of which Paul spoke in his letter to the Galatians. The most effective ministries, she said, are grounded in and derived from the study of scripture and a strong prayer and devotional life—one's relationship with God. God will strengthen people whoever they are, wherever they are. She cautioned that such strengthening should not be sought in isolation, however, and warned against responding to current crises by adopting a "bunker mentality." She averred that everyone feels in crisis, and is in need of God's healing power. She stated that business as usual is unsustainable, and that church members must follow Jesus' example by seeking dramatically different and innovative behaviors to foster a renewed connection to God, each other, and the larger world.

CHURCH/CHARGE CONFERENCE (continued from page 4)

The Conference unanimously elected the following persons to the Board of Trustees, Class of 2017: **Audrey Cain, Don Lombardo** and **Will McWilliams**. These individuals join **Bev Anderson, Larry Bornemeier, Mary Lou Heyel, Kevin O'Shea, Jim Teer,** and **Drew Wagner** on our Board. The trustees have elected **Larry Bornemeier** as their president.

In addition to the trustee candidates, The Committee on Nominations and Leadership Development presented a slate of candidates for Church Council and committee positions. The Church Council is entrusted, along with the pastor, with leadership of the spiritual and temporal life of the church. Two principles guided the development of the slate:

1. God calls and equips leaders and servants in the church. We strive to identify and train those God calls.
2. We need to develop new leaders, so that the ministry can go forward into the future. Elected positions should have a 3 year term to ensure multiple people know how to perform the essential leadership tasks.

Chair of the Church Council

Chris Russock

Lay Leaders

Minnie Rouse and David Zeigler

Lay Member of Annual Conference

Jim Teer

Church Treasurer

Brian Spaulding

Financial Secretaries

Sue Teer and Barbara Fulton

Stewardship Chairperson

Ellen Basso

Membership Secretaries

Kathy Chambers and Shirley Fogle

SPRC Chairperson

Carla Pierce

Sunday School Superintendent

Coralee DeMouth

Music and Worship Chair

Barbara Kunicki

Membership Chair

Minnie Rouse

Micah 6:8 Committee Chair

Kathy Roig

President of UMM

Zeke Zahara

President of UMW

Karlene Lombardo

Missions and Outreach Chair

Beverly Anderson

Altar Guild Representative to Council

Barbara Kunicki

Visitation Committee Chair

Valerie Stagen

Facebook Coordinator

Kathy Chambers

Prayer Team

Beverly Anderson and Carla Pierce

Candidates for the chairs of the Evangelism and Communications committees may emerge from ongoing Dive Team initiatives. The Youth Team will rotate its leadership this year as the group matures in its work.

The Conference unanimously affirmed the renewal of the following Lay Speakers:

Bev Anderson, Carla Pierce, Minnie Rouse, and Carol Spaulding.

Submitted by Eileen Shaw, Recording Secretary to Charge Conference

Contingency Planning for Danbury UMC

As someone with training and expertise in the area of contingency planning, I wanted to offer my knowledge to Danbury UMC. So I will be working on a contingency plan for DUMC. The contingency plan will include plans for anything that can happen out of the ordinary to our Church and its people. The plan can include items like what if the pastor takes sick before the service (this actually happened at a previous church and Penny and I had to lead a service with no preparation!), weather extremes, fires, floods, sick parishioners, etc. While we all pray that these things will not happen, it is good to have a plan in place so the Church can perform its ministry as much as possible. Also included are plans for getting things back to normal after an unusual event.

My work on this is strictly on a volunteer basis, and I will be talking to some of you about aspects of the plan. If you have suggestions or questions, please send me an e-mail, martifostr@aol.com and we can discuss. I have received approval to go ahead with this effort from the CFO/Admin Director of the NY UMC Conference, our Pastor and our Board of Trustees.

Respectfully submitted,

Marti Foster



Strive to Thrive - with Dive

Welcome to your frequent update on what we are doing to 'Create disciples of Jesus Christ in the Danbury area' and welcome those who need to be touched.

We continue to make great progress in our three key areas of focus: Evangelism, Small groups and Mission. Here is an update on what is progressing, what's planned, and how you can get involved.

Evangelism



'Growth in discipleship'

Welcoming committee. Our welcoming process has been in place for several months. The new process has helped us identify visitors, proactively welcome our guests, and even systematically follow up with them after service. We have had several visitors over the past several months and so it has been great to try out our new process. If you are interested in becoming an official greeter, we'd love to have you. We have the process written down so it's easy for anyone to join in. The team will continue to review the process and refine it over time. Please contact any member of the team to share ideas and feedback: Pastor Kim, Coralee DeMouth, Shirley Fogle, Lucinda Johnson, Carla Pierce, Kathy Roig.

Church signs. We continue to explore a new sign by the road, as well as ways to enhance the look of the brown sign by the building. The Dive team and the Trustees are looking at a recommended design, and confirming the details at this time. We are also confirming the funding and will bring a recommendation to the Council shortly. See Bev Anderson or Kim Goodwin to share your thoughts.

Website updates. We continue to try to keep our website up to date. In the longer term, we will work to redesign the site, but that is for another day.

(continued page 7)



Contemporary worship service. In the December Flame, you heard from Barb Kunicki on the exciting plans we have for a contemporary format type service for several Sundays in the winter. Please see the December Flame to hear it 'from the horse's mouth', as Bars said. Contact Barb Kunicki or Carol Spaulding with any questions and ways you can help make this venue a success.

Mission



'Share with others'

Home repair ministry – 'Work in Progress'. As an extension of the great work we do each year as part of ASP, we are looking to extend our passion for creating better living conditions through the creation of a local Home repair ministry. See Don Demouth's December Flame update on 'Work in progress' for an update on this great opportunity that he is creating. (Don has said it so much better than I could ever summarize!)

Rich array of mission work... We will continue to share frequent updates on our mission work. Our key areas of mission work include: Dorothy Day, Covenant to Care, Bike and Build, Helping Hands, Appalachia Service Project (ASP), as well as the good works of our United Methodist Women's group. Join a group if you are not already involved! There are also ways throughout the year to support these missions.

Small Groups



'Let's get together'

Getting the word out! We have so much to offer, and we know we can do more to help us each find the right small group or groups to enrich our experience with our religion. We have put together a summary of each of our small groups. We are also updating more often the bulletin boards that feature our small groups. (Thanks to Lucinda's terrific bulletin board design skills!) Also, we will be sharing an overview of our small groups during worship service. See Minnie Rouse with any ideas or feedback.

Let's meet! You told us that you want to connect more outside of church. This can be a casual gathering at a local cultural event or even a trip to see a play. See Jim David for ideas so we can get this started.

Wow! Your great ideas continue to lead to some great initiatives. Thank you for that. Please keep the energy alive as we launch those initiatives underway and continue to explore new ways to create disciples of Jesus Christ in the Danbury are. We are scheduling our next Dive team meeting in January (date will be published in the bulletin). All are welcome.

Kim Goodwin

Dive team lead, on behalf of the Dive Team

Believe!

Lending Library

Make the most of it for yourself and others!



The United Methodist Church of Danbury

5 Clapboard Ridge Road • Danbury, CT 06811

Phone: 203-743-1503 • Fax: 203-743-1533

A Safe Sanctuary for Children

Ministers: The Congregation

Pastor: Kimberly A. Bosley

Associate Music Director: Carol Spaulding

Church Administrator: Eileen Shaw

Lay Leaders: Minnie Rouse and David Zeigler



Do you like to Sing???

DUMC has 2 ways to participate—
Chancel Choir and Impulse Choir.

Choose EITHER or BOTH!



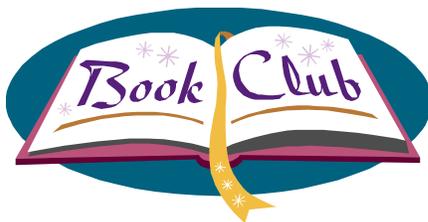
Chancel Choir

Chancel Choir meets on Thursdays from 7:30-9:00p.m. and again on Sunday mornings at 9:30 a.m. It is a wonderful way to share your talents, learn new music and have fun. All types of voices have a place in God's choir! No experience necessary.

Impulse Choir

If you are unable to make a long term commitment, this is for you...The Impulse Choir practices at 9:30a.m. before they sing at the worship service on the 3rd Sunday of the month. The songs are quick to learn. Its exciting to praise the Lord with song. Come and give it a try any time!

For more information on both choirs speak to Carol Spaulding, or phone her at (203) 778-



The January 2015 selection, Beyond Summer by Lisa Wingate, will be discussed at Shirley Fogle's on Tuesday, the 20th at 7:30 pm in the Community Room, Palace View Apartments, 132 Main St. Danbury.

Meet at the church at 7:10 if you wish to car-pool.

THE FLAME

This Jan. Flame was made possible by:

Editors.....Kathy Roig & Kathy O'Shea

ContributorsPastor Kim, Eileen Shaw, Marti Foster, Kim Goodwin, Larry Bornemeier, Jim Davis, Bev Anderson and Karlene Lombardo

Deadline for the February 2015 Flame is January 22.

Email: danburyumcflame@sbcglobal.net