

United Methodist Church of Danielson  
9 Spring Street  
Danielson CT 06239  
(860-779-2018) [umcd@snet.net](mailto:umcd@snet.net)



## Letter from Pastor Jim

### Church hours:

Sunday Worship Service 10:30am  
Sunday School 9:30am  
Office Hours Monday thru Thurs-  
day 9:00am-12:00pm

### Happy New Year!!

That is the common greeting for January 1<sup>st</sup> isn't it? What if instead of Happy we said Mediocre New Year?! Let me explain. Every year I hear of people who try really hard to change something they don't like about themselves and call it their New Year's resolution.

By mid-year we usually have given up on our resolutions or have forgotten about them all together. We always try to add something to our day to day that becomes about the daunting task of doing rather than wanting. See, God had a plan and we have the opportunity with the new year to start a new agenda with God's agenda in it.

I am reminded every year of what the writer of the Gospel according to John says about this. "The thief comes only in order that he may steal,

and may kill, and may destroy. I came that they might have and enjoy life, and have it in abundance (to the full, until it overflows") (John 10: 10 AMP)

What does it mean to have life in abundance? The original Greek word translated "abundance" in this scripture is *perissos* which means: super abundantly (in quantity), exceeding abundantly above, superior (in quality), beyond our measure. Means regardless of our plans or our constant giving up on our plans, God's plan remains the same,

### ABUNDANCE!

What are your Resolutions, hopes and or dreams? Take a moment and list the desires of your heart: A closer relationship with friends, family members, or an absolution of an estranged relationship? Or maybe you wanted the

strength to finally put down that bad habit that has held you for an infinite amount of time?

Think about this. Whatever you have listed, God has wanted you to have more than you could imagine.

Jesus came so that you can have life that's super-abundant in quantity, superior in quality and exceeding abundantly above and beyond measure. Deut. 28: 1-3 clearly shows that God's aspirations of the people is to be blessed in every area of their life. God wants you to live a victorious Christian life by experiencing victory in every situation with the knowledge that winning or losing does not define our victory in Christ.

...So Happy New Year with a quality filled Love that overflows you, to know that our resolution should always begin with the knowledge of the Love that our God has for us. That the plan is

### God's plan of life

### abundant!!

Let us remember this as we put our resolutions into action...

Shalom

*Pastor Jim*

Pastor James Mecurio

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860.774.0150

## Church and Community News



### *Tending the Garden Luncheons*

Please join us for a monthly potluck so we may **TEND THE GARDEN**

Join us for fellowship and good eats, on the second Sunday of every month directly following worship.

The first one will be on January 11th

Please let Pastor Jim know if would help setting up.

**Please let the office or Cathy McNeill know if you would like to having Giving Envelopes this year.**

### CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

**There is a sign up sheet on the coffee hour table at the back of the church.**

In a statement that He must have known would end up on the wall of virtually every children's ministry in the world, Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me and do not hinder them, for to such belongs the kingdom of heaven." Jesus wasn't just commenting on what adults need to do to enter the Kingdom of Heaven or even insight into what the Kingdom of Heaven is all about; Jesus was telling us something fundamental about childhood.

We need to share with the children of this church, they are here with us in God's House.

Please sign up to participate. these young ones are the future of this church.

### **Small group opportunity - Basic Lay Servant Class**

**Danielson United Methodist Church**

**Saturday, January 17<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>th</sup>, 9-3**

This class is open to anyone who would like to learn how to be in ministry and brush up on Leading, Caring and Communicating the Word to the World.

**Please continue to support the ongoing projects of the Outreach Committee:**

- Spam, tuna with oil & peanut butter
- \* children's underwear
- \* old suitcases for Haitian Health Foundation
- \* Can tabs for children at Shriners' hospitals
- \* Campbell labels for educational supplies
- \* Blankets, towels and twin sheets for the homeless shelter
- \* Diapers for the local Diaper Bank

**The local shelter is looking for shampoo, towels, soap, toothpaste and tooth brushes. The sample sizes are welcome too.**

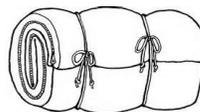
## **COFFEE WITH PASTOR JIM**

Held every Thursday at 9:00am

At

Deb's Place, Danielson CT

We are collecting used neck ties for the Golden Bees in Webster to use in making their sleeping bags.



The sleeping bags are distributed through out the Rt 395 corridor. They also need donations of light blankets, material scraps, and thread.

Each sleeping bag comes with a health kit containing:

Wash cloth, hand towel, soap, toothbrush, toothpaste, bible or inspirational book, shampoo, hand lotion, small pack tissues, etc.

Each sleeping bag also contains a small pillow, hat, scarf, mittens or gloves and socks.

They are always looking for donations of any of the above items. A collection box will be placed in the back of the Narthex.

### **The Calendar in Brief**

- Jan 7:** Community Kitchen 9 1 pm
- Jan 7:** Worship Committee 6:30pm
- Jan 8:** Choir Practice 6:30 pm
- Jan 11:** Tend the Garden Luncheon after worshiip
- Jan 12:** AD Council @ 7:00pm
- Jan 13:** SPRC @ 6:30pm
- Jan 14:** Community Kitchen 9 1 pm
- Jan 15:** Choir Practice 6:30pm
- Jan 17:** Lay Leadership Course 9:00-3:00pm
- Jan 18:** Human Relations Day special offering
- Jan 21:** Community Kitchen 9 1 pm
- Jan 22:** Choir Practice 6:30pm
- Jan 28:** Community Kitchen 9 1 pm
- Jan 29:** Choir Practice 6:30pm
- Jan 31:** Lay Leadership Course 9:00-3:00pm (day 2)

## WE DID IT!

We have paid our Mission Shares in full for 2014. This is the first time in a very long time that we have fully participated in our United Methodist connection, financially.

Looking forward for the year 2015 - our Mission Shares are \$18,040 or \$1,505/month.

World Missions - \$4,073

New England Missions - \$3,604

Ministry Support - \$10,363

Where does our Mission Shares go?

**“...the Church is either faithful as a witnessing and serving community, or it loses its vitality and its impact on an unbelieving world.”**

The Book of Discipline ¶ 107

Beyond the reaffirmation of faith, each local congregation is an expression of the ministry of Jesus Christ and bears witness to reconciliation with God and one another. As each congregation prepares its annual financial program, the language of numbers gives shape and dimension to faithful response to ministry. These responses connect our denomination in a dynamic multi-dimensional way.

Overall, our resources are apportioned to various distinct, but interconnected, programs and ministries. While they may vary in priority, each one is worthy of your careful, prayerful and responsible consideration and decision.

To assist you in your review of how your apportioned resources work, we have divided the fundamental needs of our Conference and denomination into three fund areas. Each fund represents an important area in which we are keeping faith with the Discipline and our commitment as a connectional people:

### Mission Share Funds

- Fund 1 – World Missions
- Fund 2 – New England Mission
- Fund 3 – Ministry Support

Your response to each of these funds will truly be an expression of faith; for all these funds address not only current, but also future needs. As such, they are the substance of things hoped for. In allocating apportioned funds, we are making tangible our confidence of the things we hope...for our communities, for our Conference, for our church, and for our world.

### **Mission Share Giving: What's in it for others?**

- Undergirds UMCOR so that disaster relief can be delivered, funds Health Clinics
- Sends out 1,812 missionaries around the world
- Supports Urban Ministries in Boston, Lynn, Lawrence, Portland, Worcester, Providence and more
- Supports rural ministries throughout New England
- Helps send Volunteers in Mission throughout the US and abroad
- Supports covenants with the West Angola Conference and la Iglesia de Cristo and other ministry partners in Nicaragua
- Supports Africa University
- Advocates for a living wage
- Helps women experiencing crises
- Opposes use of landmines
- Works to eradicate racism
- Feeds hungry children and families in our Conference and beyond
- Supports economic ministries in Western Maine
- Supports ministries to college students
- Advocates for our environment
- Opposes the death penalty
- Opposes legalized gambling
- Provides scholarships for students around the world
- Helps fund 225 retirement homes, 70 hospitals, 8 two-year colleges, 82 four-year colleges, 13 seminaries and much, much more!

## **Mission Share Giving: What's in it for our Church?**

- Trains lay speakers
- Subsidizes seminary education for your clergy
- Helps provide for youth ministry
- Provides pension and health benefits for clergy and families
- Helps start new churches
- Helps identify grant money for churches
- Provides consultants for churches
- Stewardship training
- Develops curriculum for Sunday Schools
- Provides scholarships
- Develops Disciple Bible Study
- Trains and develops missionaries
- Provides counsel for treasurers and trustees
- Maintains resource library
- Appoints a pastor to your church
- Administers pension and health benefits and local church insurance programs
- Works for an inclusive denomination
- Provides equitable and strategic compensation to pastors
- Supports 4 camps and a retreat center
- Holds annual conference sessions
- and much, much more.

Our new offering envelopes will have 4 options to designate giving. Budget, World Missions, New England Missions and Other. The Missions collected will be sent off to conference as contributing to our Mission Shares. The balance each month will be made up through our church budget.

Praise God for all of resources! It is amazing what each of us can do when we join together.



## JANUARY VOLUNTEERS

### 01.04

Liturgist: Barbara Schreier  
 Greeter: Del Tomasi  
 Ushers: Joann Caulder & Kevin Payne  
 Tellers: Marsha Hardell & Nate Bramlett

### 01.11

Liturgist: Art Ouillette  
 Greeter: Joyce Davis  
 Ushers: Vernis Kelly & Jill Ouillette  
 Tellers: Pam Bramlett & Betsy Kneeland

### 01.18

Liturgist: Joann Caulder  
 Greeter: Vernis Kelly  
 Ushers: Cranston Briggs & Joyce Davis  
 Tellers: Jennelle Provencher & Mildred  
 Briggs

### 01.25

Liturgist: Betsy Kneeland  
 Greeter: Bev Fedorowicz  
 Ushers: Kendra & Pat Collins  
 Tellers: Sue Theroux & Barbara Schreier

#### TELLER LIST

Week 1	Marsha Hardell + Nate Bramlett
Week 2	Sue Theroux + Barbara Schreier
Week 3	Jennelle Provencher + Mildred Briggs
Week 4	Pam Bramlett + Betsy Kneeland
Week 5	Del Tomasi + Nancy Wold
Floaters are:	Kendra Collins

**If you have an article or an idea for the newsletter, please have it email to the office by 15th of the month. [umcd@snet.net](mailto:umcd@snet.net)**

**Your ideas are always welcome!**

**Visit our Facebook Page: Danielson United Methodist Church**

**Office Hours :** Monday thru Thursday 9:00am to 12:00pm

***Pastor meeting available upon request 860.779.2018***