The Visitor

January 2016

United Methodist Church of Danielson 9 Spring Street
Danielson CT 06239
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A MESSAGE FROM CATHY MCNEIL

Giving -

Christmas is over – the presents are opened – the decorations are coming down. How do you feel? How was it watching people open their gifts that you had given them? Did you see the joy on their face? Christmas is a time of giving. It is a celebration of the biggest gift of all. Jesus – the son of God – given to us – to show us the way to eternal life. Jesus - to show us the way to give God's love and light to others.

What is it that we give back to God? We talk a lot about giving our time through volunteering, and our talents, but I want to talk about giving our tithes. One tenth of what we earn back to God. I have told many of my faith stories over the years and I have also told this one to a few. Back in the early 1990's I was taking a Disciple I class at the Putnam United Methodist Church. I had a good job and we were looking to purchase a house. The seeking of the house was consuming me. How were we going to handle the finances, when were we going to find something affordable etc. Someone in the class told me to give it up to the Lord. Which I did. We were also asked to start tithing. We were to tithe and to trust God to provide for us. So, I did. We found a house, we continued to work and pay our bills. And then, I lost my job. We started a business and I still continued to give my 10% to the church. Every month I did not know if the mortgage payment was going to come in – but every month it did.

Something else happened over these years. My children would bring their friends over. It would come to be supper time and they asked if the friends could

stay and eat with us. I looked at them and the food that I had and said no because I did not think there was enough for our family. After supper I put the left overs away, and then ended up throwing them out the next week. I realized that there was always enough to feed their friends. I started saying yes, and we never went hungry.

There is a freedom in tithing. It is the freedom to trust God to provide everything that you need. It leads to the freedom of knowing how much God truly loves us. It leads to the freedom to know that giving our tithes helps all of the people in the world. God has made the earth sustainable for us. God gave us dominion over the lands. I always imagine that if everyone were to give their 10% to further the kingdom of God – no one would go without.

In this New Year I would like to challenge everyone to tithe. Some people tithe their net pay, some people tithe their gross pay. Tithe your food, your clothes. Spend time in prayer and ask God to help you open up to His abounding Grace through giving. See what happens. And if you already tithe —I challenge you to share your tithing stories. Because I know you have them.

Malachi 3:10 I am the Lord All-Powerful, and I challenge you to put me to the test. Bring the entire ten percent into the storehouse, so there will be food in my house. Then I will open the windows of heaven and flood you with blessing after blessing.

Stewardship Is...



Love in Action

Church hours:

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

Church and Community News

Discovering the Possibilities A study of missional opportunities for our church

We believe that our congregation has the potential to be faithful and fruitful in ministry.

DISCOVERING THE POSSIBILITIES

is a process designed to give our congregation a realistic sense of what fulfilling their ministry potential might mean.

We have had a Coach here and we have a Leadership Team working hard in preparation for the final report in January. Our meeting with Coach Rick McKinley is on January 10th following our service and a lunch will be provided. It is imperative that everyone attend to take full advantage of this fantastic coaching opportunity. On the 10th, the full report will be shared by the leadership team with the whole congregation for their discernment and decisions regarding the next step(s) for our church. Let's start the new year with all the love, encouragement and faith we can to move our church into a strong place.

REFLECT

REVIEW

RENEW



Psalm 71: 1-6

1 I run for dear life to God, I'll never live to regret it. 2 Do what you do so well: get me out of this mess and up on my feet. Put your ear to the ground and listen, give me space for salvation. 3 Be a guest room where I can retreat; you said your door was always open! You're my salvation my vast, granite fortress. 4 My God, free me from the grip of Wicked, from the clutch of Bad and Bully. 5 You keep me going when times are tough - my bedrock, God, since my childhood. 6 I've hung on you from the day of my birth, the day you took me from the cradle; I'll never run out of praise.

UNITED METHODIST 101

Second Thursday of the month at 6:00pm

Come to **UNITED METHODISM 101.** It's interactive and is a blend of audio, video, written materials and group discussion.

A lifelong or long-term or new to the United Methodist traditions?" You may be surprised at what you can learn about our United Methodist Church and how it fits into the modern world.

Why are you United Methodist? What is your image of The United Methodist Church? How did that image develop? What would you like to learn about our church? .

You do not have to attend every one and can jump in any time! Come when you can.

CANCER SUPPORT GROUP

We are very excited to notify all of you that a Cancer Support Group will begin at our Oneco UMC.

7:00-8:30 p.m., and will meet monthly on the 4th Tuesday of the month.

We have facilitators for the Group, but still need a few people just to sit in to listen for specific needs within the group. Please spread the word. Everyone is welcome to attend.

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
- Shoes for Africa

The local shelter is looking for shampoo, towels, soap, toothpaste and tooth brushes, coffee cups, soup bowls, silverware, razors, twin sheets and blankets. The sample sizes of personal amenities are welcome too.

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 Rte. 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.



Monday morning breakfasts

could use any of the following:

Pancake mix, milk and eggs

Hash browns

Eggs

Bacon/Ham/ Sausages

Coffee, and canned or frozen Juice

Paper products, including plates coffee and juice cups

Or a monetary donation to purchase these items and some of the more perishable items we us.

WE ARE CURRENTLY LOW ON PAPER GOODS.

Danielson UMC – Monday morning breakfast – every Monday morning 7:30 – 11:00am. Food servers and cleanup. We are also looking for a volunteer to introduce crocheting plastic bags for mats for homeless people. Also a volunteer to help write resumes.

Danielson UMC – Friday Be Our Guest Dinners – the 3rd, 4th and 5th Friday's. 4:00 – 8:00pm. Servers and cleanup is needed.

:	JANUARY UMCD CALENDAR				
Jan 3	Discovering the Possibilities Committee mtg after service				
Jan 4	Fellowship Breakfast 9:00				
Jan 6	Community Kitchen 9-1pm				
Jan 10	Discovering the Possibilities and				
ı	Lunch for the congregation after				
•	service				
Jan 11	Fellowship Breakfast 9:00				
Jan 12	Trustee Meeting 6:30pm				
Jan 13	Community Kitchen 9-1pm				
" Jan 14	Methodist 101 6:00pm				
Jan 17	Human Relations Sunday				
Jan 17	NOW mtg after service				
Jan18	Martin Luther Kind Day (Office Closed)				
" Jan 18	Fellowship Breakfast 9:00				
Jan 20					
Jan 22	Be Our Guest Dinner 5:00pm				
Jan 25	Fellowship Breakfast 9:00				
<u>"</u> Jan 27	,				
Jan 29	Be Our Guest Dinner 5:00pm				

Dough Boys and Girls – , 9:00am. Open to everyone. Make bread dough for sale. Some of the proceeds will help support our free meals. Come Play in Kitchen with us,

WE KNEAD YOU!



COMMITTEES

THE ANNUAL AUDIT APPROACHES

PLEASE HAVE YOUR REPORTS INTO THE OFFICE ASAP SO WE CAN COMPILE ALL THE NECESSARY DOCUMENTATION.

Scripture Readings

January 3

- Numbers 6:22-27
- Psalm 8 (UMH 743)
- Philippians 2:5-11

January 10

- Isaiah 43:1-7
- Psalm 29 (UMH 761)
- Acts 8:14-17
- Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

January 17

- Micah 5:2-5a
- Luke 1:46b-55 (UMH 199)
- Hebrews 10:5-10
- Luke 1:39-45

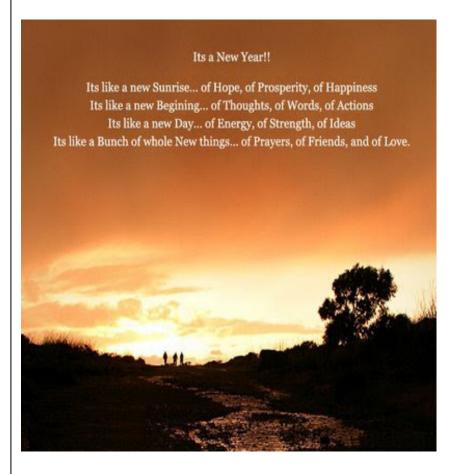
January 24

- Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10
- Psalm 19 (UMH 750)
- 1 Corinthians 12:12-31a
- Luke 4:14-21

January 31

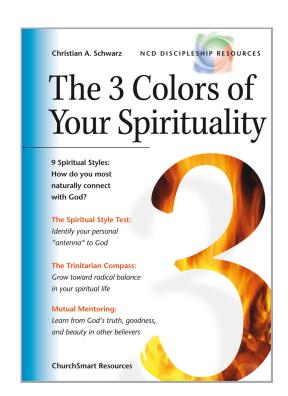
- Jeremiah 1:4-10
- Psalm 71:1-6 (UMH 794)
- 1 Corinthians 13:1-13
- Luke 4:21-30

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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					
Week 5 Floaters are:	Kendra Collins					
	Cathy McNeill					
	Barbara Schreier					



The 3 Colors of Your Spirituality - Christian A Schwartz.

How do you most naturally connect with God? Learn your natural spiritual color and how to balance your spiritual life through a 5 week course. If you have ever wondered why sometimes you aren't getting anything out of going to church – it may not be the pastor. It may be that your native spiritual style isn't the worship style that is at church. This class will introduce some life changing ways to be able to relate better to those around you and help give you a bigger picture of God.



There are 2 classes available:

Monday's 12:00-1:30pm

January 18, 23, 30 and February 1, 8.

Saturday's 10:00 - 11:30am

January 23, 30, February 6, 13, 20.

At the Danielson United Methodist Church

Contact Cathy McNeill for reservation and book. 860-230-6804 or cathymcneill@ymail.com