

# The Visitor

March 2016

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



So, for those that may not know yet and may be wondering why the Pastor's office hours are now two days a week. This past January I began the next part of my academic journey by starting my Master's Degree work at Boston University.

Now nearly six weeks later I sit here cramming for my mid-terms and wondering "How did I get here?" I go back to the first time I rode on the Transit to Boston and how nerve racking it was for me, I kept thinking, what if this is not the stop? Or what if I miss my stop completely? Was it Longwood, Fenway, Brookline Hills, which one do I get off at again? On my first day I called my friend and colleague who was kind enough to show me around about a month before.

"Hey, good morning" I said nervously. "What stop do I get off at again?"

My friend replied patiently, "Fenway, you want to get off at Fenway and walk around the block to the school."

Obviously, I found my stop and the school thanks to the Grace my friend showed me. Since then, I have made this trip enough times that it is ingrained into my habits. I even know where the trash cans are to dispose of my wonderful coffee cup that I had drank while on the train. It has dawned on me how many different faces I see in during the time I am on the train, the hundreds and even thousands of faces that I see each time I ride the train and go to school.

Recently, here at the church there have been several new faces amongst us as well.

I wonder how strange and different it

must have felt to sit in the pews for the first time. Not knowing the hymns, looking at the video displays and wondering what is this all about. There are a few, let's just call them "angels" who intentionally sit next to these people and welcome them to our worship time and space.

This week in the Saturday Lenten Circle we will talk about the idea of a church where people, all people, can feel welcomed and at peace. What I like to call the "warm and fuzzies". What if it was not at the building that we call "church", but out in the world where we are the church? What if we made it our business to welcome everyone, not just exclusively at worship, but at the restaurant, at the checkout counter, and even at the bank? What kind of world would we have if all of us could in fact see God's image in the faces of everyone we encounter?

That would be an amazing feat to accomplish, but I am encouraged by the words from our DS on his address several years ago where he challenged us to go and make Disciples one person at a time. I challenge you as I challenge myself to make this a reality Where we can give Grace to everyone we meet, even when there is no other reason to do that except for the love we have for our God.

I hope you can make this part of your Lenten journey and your Easter celebration.

In Christ's Service

Pastor Jim

Pastor James Mecurio  
[pastorjim2889@gmail.com](mailto:pastorjim2889@gmail.com)  
860.774.0150



**Church hours:**

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

## Church and Community News

### The Lent Prayer Circle time has changed for March 5th only.

This is to accommodate the World Day of Prayer Service and Luncheon we are hosting.

The time for the Prayer Circle this day only is 10:30am to 11:30am.

### The Dough Boys & Girls

are meeting at 9:00am every Saturday morning All are welcome to join us in our therapy as we beat up bread dough for a good cause. Please come

# WE KNEAD YOU!!



### The Oneco -Sterling Cancer Support and Prayer Group



Join us on the 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesdays of the month- 7:00pm at the Oneco United Methodist Church  
1128 Plainfield Pike, Oneco, CT 06373  
This is an ongoing group. New people are welcome at any time.  
For more information contact:  
Cathy McNeill - 860-230-6804  
onecosterlingspg@gmail.com

A **Cancer Diagnosis** of your own or for someone you know can be a frightening thing-



**Having people to talk with - helps.**

- Safe Environment
- Respectful
- Caring
- Understanding

### Sunday Nursery Sunday School

The gathering will be in the Nursery during worship for all infant to 8 years olds.

There will be games, crafts, music and some interactive play. The intention is to offer the young families a place where their children can learn and play and they can have an opportunity to have worship.

All childcare providers will be Safe Sanctuary trained.

Please bring your children and your neighbours children!



**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

**DONATIONS – Tote bags for cancer patients in the hospital for treatment.** Tote bags will be distributed as needed through the Cancer Prayer and Support Group.

Filtered refillable water bottles

Box of note cards and stamps

Cozy Socks

Planner/Journal

Plush throw 50"x70"

Detox Herbal Tea

Skin conditioning oil (vegan)

**NICARAGUA RESCHEDULED  
FEBRUARY 2017**

**April 10, 2016** – Information meeting with pot luck dinner. **Danielson UMC – 5:00pm.** This trip is open to anyone 16 years and older. Limited space available. Fund raising events will be hosted to defray cost. Call Cathy McNeill if interested. 860-230-6804 or email [cathymcneill@ymail.com](mailto:cathymcneill@ymail.com)



**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 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Friday's. 4:00 – 8:00pm. Servers and cleanup is needed.

**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.**

**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.

## BLUEGRASS GOSPEL PROJECT

Friday April 1st @ 8:00pm



**First Congregational Church  
543 Rte. 169 Woodstock CT**

A benefit concert for Community Kitchens of Northeastern CT

Tickets are \$15.00 in advance or \$20.00 at the door

Sponsorship for \$100.00 includes 2 tickets and program listing. For advanced tickets or sponsorship form, call the office at 850.779.2018

## A MESSAGE FROM KIDS CARE MEAL PACKAGING

I thought I'd bring you up to date with progress for raising funds for our **April 3rd** food packaging event and let you know that if anyone has raised money to help, what to do with those funds.

As of 2/20/2016, we have raised \$8,612. In order to package 50,000 meals we need to raise \$12,500. This may seem impossible to manage in just over a month, but usually we raise more than half of the amount in the last month and most of that in the last few weeks.

If you have raised any funds for the food packaging event, or if you would like to donate:

Checks can be written to **Outreach Kids Care** mailed directly to Matthew Martin 1574 Ocean Street Marshfield MA 02050; PLEASE BE SURE TO

WRITE: EndHungerNE #21 on the memo line of the check to be sure the donation goes to our event, there are other events happening in CT.



## The Religious Meaning of Easter Lilies

Perhaps the flower most closely associated with Easter, lilies represent purity and hope, along with symbolizing the resurrection. In his Sermon on the Mount, Jesus alludes to the beauty of the flowers, reminding his listeners that King Solomon, with all of his riches, was not dressed as beautifully as the lilies of the field. Legend holds that lilies, sometimes called "white-robed apostles of hope," sprang from the ground where drops of Jesus' sweat fell to the ground during his final agony. Medieval artists used the blossoms to signify womanhood and purity in paintings of the Annunciation, when the angel Gabriel told Mary that she was to be the mother of God. Folklore holds that visitors to the Virgin Mary's tomb found only a bed of lilies because her body went straight to heaven during the first three days after her death. Another legend says that lilies grew from Eve's tears of repentance when she left the Garden of Eden. Easter lilies and Madonna lilies symbolize virtue, innocence, hope and life, while commemorating the resurrection of Christ and the hope of eternal life in heaven.

## March Scripture Readings

### March 6

- Joshua 5:9-12
- Psalm 32 (UMH 766)
- 2 Corinthians 5:16-21
- Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32

### March 13

- Isaiah 43:16-21
- Psalm 126 (UMH 847)
- Philippians 3:4b-14
- John 12:1-8

### March 20

- Liturgy of the Palms
- Luke 19:28-40
- Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29 (UMH 839)
- Liturgy of the Passion

### March 25 Good Friday

- Isaiah 52:13-53:12
- Psalm 22 (UMH 752)
- Hebrews 10:16-25
- John 18:1-19:42

### March 27

- Acts 10:34-43
- Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24 (UMH 839)
- 1 Corinthians 15:19-26
- John 20:1-18

#### THE LAW OF LOVE

For the whole law is fulfilled in one word, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." (Galatians 5:14 RSV)

**And who is your neighbor? Everyone is your neighbor. This is shown in the Parable Of The Good Samaritan (Luke 10:25-37, shown below). Therefore, "Love your neighbor as yourself" really means "Love all people as yourself," because everyone is our neighbor.**

But what about love for God? Doesn't that come first? Yes, but God counts our love for others as if it were love for Himself. So when we love others, we are loving Him at the same time. This is shown in the Parable Of The Sheep And The Goats (Matthew 25:31-46.) And we cannot claim to love God until we first love our fellow man.

#### 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
	Cathy McNeill
	Barbara Schreier

### FEBRUARY UMCD CALENDAR

- Mar 2 Community Kitchen 9-1pm
- Mar 2 Trustee Mtg 6:30pm
- Mar 3 Cub Scouts 5:30pm—6:30pm
- Mar 3 Choir Practice 6:30pm
- Mar 5 World Day of Prayer 11:30am
- Mar 5 Lent Prayer Circle 10:30am
- Mar 6 One Great Hour of Sharing Sunday
- Mar 6 AD Council Mtg after service
- Mar 7 Fellowship Breakfast 9:00
- Mar 9 Community Kitchen 9-1pm
- Mar 9 Cub Scouts 5:30—6:30pm
- Mar 10 Choir Practice 6:30pm
- Mar 12 Lent Prayer Circle 11am-12pm
- Mar 12 Dough Boys and Girls 9:00am
- Mar 14 Fellowship Breakfast 9:00
- Mar 16 Community Kitchen 9:00—1:00pm
- Mar 16 Cub Scouts 5:30—6:30pm
- Mar 17 Choir Practice 6:30pm
- Mar 18 Be Our Guest Dinner 5:00pm
- Mar 19 Dough Boys and Girls 9:00am
- Mar 19 Lent Prayer Circle 11am—12:00pm
- Mar 21 Fellowship Breakfast 9:00
- Mar 22 Cancer Support Group @ Oneco UMC 7:00pm
- Mar 23 Community Kitchen 9-1pm
- Mar 23 Cub Scouts 5:30pm—6:30pm
- Mar 24 Maundy Thursday Service Moosup UMC 6:30pm
- Mar 25 Be Our Guest Dinner 5:00pm
- Mar 26 Holy Saturday Service Danielson UMC 11:00am
- Mar 27 Sunrise Service @6:30am @ Allen Hill Tree Farm
- Mar 27 Easter Sunday Communion Service 10:30am
- Mar 28 Fellowship Breakfast 9:00
- Mar 30 Community Kitchen 9-1pm
- Mar 30 Cub Scouts 5:30pm—6:30pm
- Mar 31 Choir Practice 6:30pm

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

**Pastor meeting available upon request 860.779.2018**