



Guiding To and Growing Through the Christian Life

Pastor, Rev. Sungmu Lee PhD

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Website: avonunitedmethodist.com

Church Office Hours: Tue, Wed, Fri 9 am - 2 pm

Church Sexton Hours: Mon-Fri 6:30 am - 10:30 am

Sunday Worship Schedule:

8:30am Worship Service with Communion

9:30am Sunday School for all ages

10:30am Family Worship Service

On line worship:

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/avon.mumc/>

Youtube <https://www.youtube.com/user/AvonMUMC>

We are in the season of Lent now. Traditionally, Lent requires that Christians give up something they like in order to devote more time and energy to Christian service. Let us think of what we have given up so far and what we will devote in Lent.

Are you too busy to spend time and energy serving for church activities? Do you think it is old fashion to do so? Do you think that you can celebrate the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ without that kind of preparation?

Unlike the early Christians, not many of us fast for forty days or practice some other kind of abstinence. However, we still need to inherit the wisdom of our Christian ancestors who prepared faithfully for the resurrection of Jesus Christ. Without the death of Jesus Christ there is no resurrection. Without dedication there is no celebration. Our Christian ancestors have taught us how to keep the balance between enjoying Christian privileges and practicing Christian responsibilities.

*The
Season
of
Lent*



I often feel that we modern people have too much freedom of choice. If we do not want to do something, we will not do it, and if we want to do something, then we will do it. It has become a good excuse to say, "Because I don't want to." I think we need more spiritual discipline.

We want to celebrate the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. We want to share the joyous moments of resurrection with Jesus. Then, we should learn how to sacrifice ourselves and how to dedicate ourselves for this sake. We remember Jesus, who suffered and died on a cross and was resurrected.

Let us learn during the season of Lent how to sacrifice ourselves for God, God's church, and our neighbors. Then, we will be raised to new life each day with Jesus Christ. Happy Lent!

Sungmu Lee

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**PLEASE JOIN US ON
FACEBOOK OR YOUTUBE**

**FOR SUNDAY SERVICES,
SEARCH FOR Avon Mumc**

MARCH BIRTHDAYS

“Happy Birthday!” to the following people who are celebrating birthdays this month.



5	Judy Corbeil	18	Linda Kime
7	Brenda Slone	18	Rhett Tew
10	Erin Corbett	19	Timothy Kelsey
12	Aaron Oommen	19	Chalise Ross
16	Carla Gregory	20	Sandy Sargent
17	Mary Montgomery	20	Emmett Borenstein
17	Pam Palmer	22	Daniel Gorden

PLEASE NOTE: For newsletters and Sunday bulletins, we post only those who have requested to have themselves or their family members listed. If you would like your special day(s) added, please notify the church office at avonmumc@gmail.com. Thank you.



**REMEMBERING
THOSE WHO HAVE
TROUBLE GETTING
OUT AND
THOSE NEEDING A
PRAYER**

A card would be so appreciated.

Judy C.
The Residence at
Brookside
117 Simsbury Rd.
Avon, CT 06001

Katie M.
11 Briarwood Road
Farmington, CT 06032

Cheryl M.
209 West Side Blvd.
Unionville, CT 06085

Lorraine Z.
9 Keystone Circle
Avon, CT 06001

FROM PASTORAL CARE:

VALENTINE'S FIRST FRIDAY LUNCH

We gathered to celebrate Valentine's Day a little early and enjoyed a great variety of dishes and great fellowship and conversation.

Please join us for our next First Friday Potluck lunch.....



"OUR HERITAGE" FIRST FRIDAY POTLUCK LUNCH Friday, March 3 at noon

Potluck lunch traditionally provides a great variety of dishes that we get to sample at our First Friday pot luck lunches.

We are hoping to make this especially scrumptious by asking everyone to **bring something that comes from their heritage, their family's history and country of origin.** This should provide a wonderful variety of foods for us all to sample. Please provide a card with the name of the dish and country of origin. (Cards will be made available.)

We also encourage all to bring any items that are representative of their heritage and/or culture for a display for all to view. Hope to see you all there to share and learn about each other's heritage.

THURSDAY LUNCH BUNCH

Lunch Bunch is a casual get together of MUMCers **every Thursday at noon (except week of First Friday Potluck Lunch).**

We bring our own lunches, sometimes share some cookies. It has become such an **enjoyable custom.** In addition to enjoying a meal together, we share stories, memories and even discuss current affairs a bit. Always lively conversation and fellowship. Won't you join us? Just pack up your own lunch (can heat in microwave if needed). **There's always room for more!!! Just give us a try!!!!**



SOUP SUPPER AND INTERGENERATIONAL GAME NIGHT!

We had a fun evening enjoying some great soup and the fixin's and great conversation and fellowship.



FROM EDUCATION COMMITTEE....

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY "LIVING A CHOCOLATE LIFE"

Laura Gorden

Fun, friendly, and engaging, "Living a Chocolate Life" invites women to savor God's rich and endless supply of grace in Christ. Whether they're sampling everything from bitter nuggets of pain to sweet morsels of joy, this study reminds readers that the Holy Spirit fills them with sweet faith in the Savior and it is only He who can truly satisfy.

Written with a fun chocolate theme, each session focuses on one aspect of life as a Christian woman, encouraging readers toward introspection and personal reflection. Designed to be 45 to 60 minutes long, each session includes at least one recipe for a chocolate dessert item, a Bible verse to memorize, chocolate trivia, and suggestions for group activities.

This study group will meet on Saturday mornings at 10 AM starting on April 15. Please notify me by April 1 if you are interested so that the study books can be ordered in time for our first meeting.



VALENTINE MAKING FOR AVON HEALTH CENTER & APPLE REHAB

On Sunday morning, February 12, both during Sunday School and Fellowship Hour our kids gathered to create Valentines – and enjoyed some special Valentine treats during Fellowship Hour.

During the week the 3 and 4 year olds of Churchery School also colored Valentines. Extra copies were made to provide **150 valentines** which were delivered to Avon Health Center and Apple Rehab to brighten Valentine's Day for their residents. Thanks to all who participated. Hopefully soon we will be able to visit in person.



**2023
VACATION
BIBLE CAMP
"HERO HOTLINE"**
August 14th-18th, 2023
9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Age 3 as of 8/14 (must be potty trained) to those completing Grade 4

\$20 per child; max. \$50 per family

Mark your calendars now!!!!

In the depths of a colorful underground cave, is the beating heart of the hero community, the **Hero Hotline Headquarters** where everyone's gifts are valued and every hero has a role to play. Each day at the Hero Hotline Headquarters, superheroes of all ages and abilities answer the call and join the Professor and veteran hero, Super Meer the Meerkat, to provide expert assistance and solutions to Hero Teams everywhere.

All children are invited to participate in Vacation Bible Camp – we have no limit on number of registrations. Mark your calendars. Registration will be open soon to register your child (grandchild, niece, nephew, friend).

A successful **Vacation Bible Camp** requires **numerous volunteers** to lead the various activities as listed above as well as group leaders and aids, including youth. Won't you consider being part of this group? We promise the rewards outweigh the efforts!!!

Questions? Contact:

Beth Slone at aliannabet@yahoo.com or
Kay Hunter via [the church office](#).

HOLY WEEK SPECIAL EVENTS FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH

We have special plans for Sunday School on Palm Sunday.

Lessons on Communion: On Palm Sunday, April 2, at 9:30am, all children and their parents are invited to join Pastor Lee in Fellowship Hall for Lessons on Communion. We hope this will provide guidance and information to those who may be ready to receive their first communion, as well as those who have already been observing and participating in Holy Communion. We schedule these Lessons at this time in order to provide the perfect opportunity for our children to receive their first communion with church family on Maundy Thursday or Easter Sunday. For all children, this time with Pastor Lee will expand their understanding of Holy Communion.

Holy Week Workshop: Please join us on Palm Sunday, April 2 immediately following Lessons on Communion for a choice of crafts and activities that represent and relate to the events of Holy Week. There will be something for every age. Hope to see you there.

Easter Egg Hunt: Easter Sunday Breakfast will be April 9 at 9:15am followed by the Easter Egg Hunt at about 10:00am. All children will gather in the hallway outside of Fellowship Hall, be divided into groups (toddler to kindergarten, grades 1-3 and grades 4-6) and proceed outside for the hunt. In case of inclement weather, the hunt will be held in the Education wing. All children are asked to bring a basket, but if they should forget, we will have containers available. We also ask that the plastic eggs be emptied and returned to a bin in the hallway – to recycle for next year. Hope to see you all there!

Please note: There will be NO Sunday School on Easter Sunday, April 9.

FROM MISSIONS COMMITTEE....



TOILETRY PACKETS FOR UMCOR

Our collection of toiletry packets for UMCOR this year will be held in conjunction with the other 6 churches in our Parish in hope of creating a total of 200 packets. Each church will be assigned an item and asked to provide 200 of that item.

Kick off will be March 19. Once items are collected, folks from all 7 churches will gather together to assemble the packets which will then be presented at Annual Conference as a joint effort by the 7 churches in our Parish. Watch for details which should be available soon.

MEAL FOR WINSTED

Laura Gorden

On **February 4** 64 meatloaf meals were delivered to Winsted. Thank you to Courtney Robinson who helped me mix the meatloaf the day before. Thank you to Jeff Tremback for taking the lead, in my absence, to prepare the meal. Thank you to his helpers: Sue Yankus, Thomas Bailey, and John and Bev Perotti.

April 1 is the next date to serve Winsted. One person is needed to help prepare the meatloaf meal starting at 8 AM. At 9:30 AM 2 additional volunteers are needed to help fill 64 individual takeout food containers for delivery to Winsted. At 10:00 someone is needed to help deliver the food to Winsted and it is nice to have an additional person to wash the dishes and clean the kitchen. PLEASE LET ME KNOW IF YOU CAN HELP WITH THIS MISSION PROJECT.

The 2023 Schedule for Winsted meals is:

April 1
June 3
August 5
October 7
December 2



UMARMY 2023

Laura Gorden

The UMARMY Pop-Up Weekend is scheduled for June 2-4. The host church will be the First United Methodist Church in Torrington. All of our parish churches and the West Hartford UMC are invited to participate in this mission weekend. Individual churches will plan their work day in their own community. Each day will end with a UMARMY worship service at the Torrington church.

This is a new format that is being tried and Memorial UMC has always been supportive of UMARMY. With that in mind, please consider joining us for this weekend mission opportunity. Anyone from 6th grade through adulthood are eligible to participate. We need one adult for every three youth so please be in prayerful consideration of joining this mission experience.

UMARMY also has the following mission weeks set for 2023. These are all over-night camps and require a one-week commitment.

July 9-15 Mixed Age (7th grade through high school plus adult leaders), Trucksville, PA

July 16-22 Mixed Age (7th grade through high school plus adult leaders), Wethersfield, CT

July 23-29 Mixed Age (7th grade through high school plus adult leaders), West Chelmsford, MA

Kevin and Julia Sweet are attending the Wethersfield mission week. Would love to have more participants. Contact me if interested.



Thanks to all who donated to our collection for Souper Bowl of Caring. A total of \$520 was collected breaking our previous record of \$500!!!

UMARMY SUPER BOWL GRINDER SALE!!!



And the results are in! The real winner of Super Bowl LVII is UM ARMY. We took orders for 38 grinders and 8 chilis and chowders, but we brought extras on almost everything and ended selling it all. The Meatball and Italian Stallion continue to be the MVPs of the game, covering 50% of all orders. Lettuce and tomato continue to be the most popular toppings (not surprising), but Honey Mustard saw a shocking 250% increase in playing time compared to 2021. We can only assume it will continue to make an impact on future grinders (and maybe someday overtake roasted peppers for the #4 spot!).

Thanks to everyone who rounded their bill up to the nearest \$20 (or in one case, to the nearest \$100!), we ended up with a profit of \$424. Avon is participating in the Wethersfield week, plus we are trying to organize a "pop up" weekend camp in Avon, so this fundraiser definitely helps.

MUMC FAMILY and FRIENDS DIRECTORY NEEDS NEWER PHOTOS!!

It is time to update your photos in our directory to look more like we do nowadays! Especially families whose kids are much more grown up than they are in old pictures. It is so simple these days to have someone snap a quick pic with your phone. **All 'selfies' welcome!** No need to dress up – it's just for us to see when we're trying to place a face with a name. Our directory is only accessible by the folks with emails listed inside. **Go to the website yourself to edit your listing,** add new pic, add birthdays and anniversaries! Or if you'd rather it be done for you, please send photos and all info to lmk318@aol.com or text it 860-305-0526

www.instantchurchdirectory.com

You can also easily access the directory through the MUMC website avonunitedmethodist.com



Giving is Worship. Everything we have is a gift from God. As we give back faithfully and joyfully, the world is changed. Grace and hope become a reality: the gospel is lived out, lives are touched, people are fed, bodies are healed, communities are transformed, and relationships are reconciled. When we learn to give generously, it changes us, making us more like our generous Creator.

WAYS TO GIVE

Online and Mobile Giving

Easy and secure giving. You may give one time or set up recurring giving using a bank account or credit/debit card. You may give to multiple funds at once. "Cover the fees" option is available for donors. Donors will receive an email receipt/confirmation.

All contributions are tax deductible unless otherwise specified. Free sign-up is available to view giving history and manage account and payment information. Your information is kept confidential and secure.

- To give online, click the "GIVE ONLINE NOW" button at www.avonunitedmethodist.com/give or [click here](#) (our church's Tithe.ly link) *No sign-up/account needed for one-time Online Giving
- [Click here to watch "HOW TO GIVE" video](#) - This is how giving will look when you give on our website and mobile device using the Tithe.ly app.
- [Click here to read "Common FAQs for Donors"](#) - This document provides answers to common queries related to online and mobile giving.
- Download free [iOS](#) or [Android](#) Tithe.ly app on your mobile device (smartphone and tablet).

Check

Checks can be made payable to "Memorial UMC" and dropped off or mailed to Memorial United Methodist Church, 867 West Avon Rd., Avon, CT 06001.

Offering Plate

You may contribute using cash or check by putting it in the offering plate at the appropriate time during worship.

*If you have any technical issues using Tithe.ly, please contact:
Hyeonjin Kim (hjkim1030@icloud.com).

Finance Committee



FELLOWSHIP HOUR

Linda Kime

Fellowship Hour is back in full swing down in Fellowship Hall after Sunday worship. Keeping it very light and simple this year. We appreciate the committee members giving us this service.

March Fellowship Hour Host is....

PASTORAL CARE COMMITTEE

The number one goal of the Pastoral Care Committee is to keep in touch with members of our congregation who are struggling with a life-changing situation, such as an illness or death in the family, aging issues or loneliness. Some situations are obvious, and we are able to assist in various ways, including visits and meals.

Support may include phone calls, delivery of home cooked meals, home or hospital visits, transportation, get well and thinking of you cards, or any other assistance that may be requested. Pastoral care partnerships ensure that contact is being maintained with those who may be alone or may have needs.

We are God's hands and God's arms for those in need of comfort!



FINANCE COMMITTEE

Greg Slone

The church council voted to approve the annual 2023 budget including a projected deficit of \$60,000. A special task force will meet to identify ways to potentially address the \$60,000 deficit through a variety of income generating and expense reduction approaches. The identified potential approaches will be presented to the finance committee for further consideration before being proposed to the church council.

The church financial report as of the end of January 2023 showed a year to date positive position of roughly \$12,000. While this is a blessing, please keep in mind much of this is due to multiple givers paying the majority of their annual giving in January and we still project the net positive position to roll off over the coming months.

A new online giving system has been set up replacing the former Vanco system, please see the church website for further details. A big thank you to Hyeonjin Lee and Diane Hornaday for their efforts to get the new online giving system successfully launched!

The finance committee would again like to thank Vicki Kuziak for her work on the 2021 financial church audit. Vicki met with the finance committee in February and reviewed the audit findings. The finance committee will work to address the issues Vicki identified in the audit report. Audit of the 2022 church and Churchery School financials will take place over the coming months.

MAILING LIST FOR NEWSLETTER

If you would like to be added to the mailing list, for the newsletter to be mailed to your home monthly, please email the church office at avonmumc@gmail.com.

WALT SARGENT RETIRIING AS MUMC TREASURER!!!

Walt Sargent has announced his plans to retire as treasurer of MUMC after 19 years of service. On behalf of the entire congregation, the finance and SPR committees would like to express our deep gratitude and appreciation for the tireless work and effort Walt has displayed during his time as MUMC treasurer. As treasurer, Walt prepared monthly church financial reports, contributed greatly to the annual financial budget process, provided valuable input to the finance committee, and handled various other financial- related responsibilities. Walt has agreed to stay on as treasurer until SPRC identifies a replacement treasurer and the treasurer duties are properly transitioned. We prayerfully thank Walt and wish him well in retirement as we look forward to continued fellowship with Walt and his wife Sandy.

THE OTHER GOOD BOOK GROUP

Heather Kelsey
hmkels@aol.com
(860) 670-1163



March will have us discussing *The Story of Arthur Truluv* by Elizabeth Berg. "A moving novel about three people who find their way back from loss and loneliness to a different kind of happiness. Arthur, a widow, meets Maddy, a troubled teenage girl who is avoiding school by hiding out at the cemetery, where Arthur goes every day for lunch to have imaginary conversations with his late wife, and think about the lives of others. The two strike up a friendship that draws them out of isolation. Maddy gives Arthur the name Truluv, for his loving and positive responses to every outrageous thing she says or does. With Arthur's nosy neighbor Lucille, they create a loving and unconventional family, proving that life's most precious moments are sweeter when shared." [goodreads.com] Our discussion will be held on Sunday, March 19th at 7pm, and we will meet in the Parlor and on Zoom. Please contact Heather if you would like the link. Remember, all are welcome!



REVITALIZATION TASK FORCE MOVES FORWARD!!!

The Revitalization Task Force was established June 2022 with the rebuilding and revitalizing worship and fellowship at MUMC post pandemic as #1 on our list of priorities. Activities have included Septemberfest, a variety of activities at Pumpkin Patch – Trunk or Treat, Kids Day, Tag Sale and Thank You Supper. We continued with hosting a Carol Sing for Christmas, Pasta Supper in January and Soup and Game Night in February and more!!!

In addition to the traditional worship opportunities at Memorial during lent leading up to Easter, we are looking forward to the following:

- Pairs and Spares Dinner Club
- St. Patrick's Day Dinner, Saturday, March 18
- Pot Luck Breakfast, Easter morning, April 9
- Cinco de Mayo Dinner, Friday, May 5
- Churchwide picnic in June date TBD
- Septemberfest, Sunday, September 10

Church Council has approved the construction of a gazebo which will be located on the lawn between the church building and West Avon Road. It is being donated by Linda Arnold in memory of her husband Ken, and will be constructed by members of MUMC including the UMARMY group this summer. The gazebo will provide a place for special meetings, concerts, and other activities.

A major project we have in the works is a TUTORING PROGRAM which will be open to all in the community. Covid resulted in children not attending classes in person which has resulted in a setback in the progress of their education. Our tutoring program will not only provide a much needed service to those in our community, it will also serve as a great means to bring people from our community into our church building and hopefully into our church family. This project requires much planning and organization. It is our intention to have it up and running in September. There is no limit to the breadth of subjects we can offer. If you have a skill or

subject that you would be willing to volunteer to share or if you have interest in helping to organize this tutoring program, please contact Greg Slone.

"We can do all things through Christ, who strengthens us."



ST. PATRICK'S DAY DINNER

Saturday, March 18
Serving beginning at 5 pm

Top O' the Morning!!! Or evening! Please join us for a traditional St. Patrick's Day corned beef and cabbage dinner. All are welcome!!! Invite your friends, neighbors and family to join you for an evening of great food, fellowship and conversation. Free will donations accepted.

YOUTH BOWLING / MINI GOLF EVENT

Sunday, February 26



Kicking off our youth events for 2023, ten youth and four adults gathered for an afternoon of bowling and indoor mini-golf at Lessard Lanes in Plainville. As you can see from the smiling faces, a good time was had by all.

Thank you, Kim and Doug Kafka for organizing and overseeing the event. Looking forward to gathering for a March Madness game watch at Memorial – in March!!! Be on the lookout for details!!!



Easter Flowers

Please go to the link below to place your orders on sign up genius:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0f4ca8aa22a6ff2-2021>

You may also access the link on the MUMC website: avonunitedmethodist.com

Your flower order AND payment must be received by Friday, March 12.

Choices:

- White Easter Lily 6" pot (1 stem) - \$11.50
- White Easter Lilies 9" pot (2 stems) - \$20.76
- Purple Tulips: 5 bulbs per 6" pot - \$9.75
- Red Tulips: 5 bulbs per 6" pot - \$9.75
- Pink Tulips: 5 bulbs per 6" pot - \$9.75
- Orange Tulips: 5 bulbs per 6" pot - \$9.75
- Yellow Daffodils: 5 bulbs per 6" pot - \$9.75
- Blue Hyacinths: 5 bulbs per 6" pot - \$9.76
- Blue Hydrangea: 3 blossoms, 6" pot - \$15.50 (marginally hardy)
- Pink Hydrangea: 3 blossoms, 6" pot - \$15.50 (marginally hardy)
- Dark pink Azalea 6" pot - \$14.00 (not hardy)
- Light pink Azalea 6" pot - \$14.00 (not hardy)

Make check payable to "MUMC" and write "Easter Flowers" on the memo line. Place your order form and payment in the designated envelope and drop it in the offering plate or church office mailbox. Please remember to submit your payment. Thank you.

KEEPING MUMC "PEANUT FREE"

While we cannot guarantee MUMC will be totally peanut free, we would appreciate your help in making every effort to support a peanut free environment when you are bringing something for yourself or to share at meetings or events at Memorial -in the interest of safety and wellbeing of all and especially our little ones.



OPPORTUNITIES FOR ALTAR FLOWERS

Barbara Chase



Altar Flowers

The **2023 Calendar** for altar flowers is up and running. Choose a week for your arrangement by using our online Sign-Up-Genius form with its easy to-follow directions. Just go to the church website, avonunitedmethodist.com, and choose ALTAR FLOWERS in the left-hand column. This will connect you to the Sign-Up-Genius Church Flowers order form with its easy-to-follow directions. If you would rather not use the Sign-Up Genius, contact Linda Arnold via [the church office](#). She will be glad to reserve a week for you.

Due to rising costs of flowers, we feel the need to raise the price for altar flowers to \$40.

If you ordered Altar Flowers for a Sunday Service and are not able to pick up on Sunday, they will be available for pickup in the MUMC office during the office hours of Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday 9:00am - 2:00pm.

At this time, **March 26** is open for a flower dedication. Please consider this and any other future dates.

KEEP US INFORMED!

Just a reminder that if you should hear of someone from the congregation who is ill or has another need for pastoral care, please notify the church office who will share the info with the Pastor and Pastoral Care Committee.

Too often we all think someone else has passed on this information especially to the Pastor and that is not always the case. Thanks for your help in keeping us all informed and able to keep all in prayer.

REPORT OF TRUSTEES

John Fillian, Chair



Building

With the help from our Sexton Bill the following repairs have been done:

- New closer installed an interior sanctuary doors. Door closes quietly now, as not to disturb minister's sermon.
- New light switch installed in the kitchen.
- Floor tiles in the halls are being replaced as needed.
- TV in Thornburg parlor moved to other side of room to make room for new display of church artifacts.

PLEASE NOTE: On very cold nights if the custodian closet door is open on the second floor next to the elevator, please leave open as there's no heat in that space and we have trouble with pipes freezing.

Grounds

- Saving money on snow removal this year. Hopefully it continues. Sorry snow lovers.
- Please watch for up come notification on spring cleanup. This typically happens shortly before Easter. Many hands make light work. All are welcome.

Shoutout to the AV team, Don, Kevin, Mark, and Matt as they continue to dial-in the audio and video in the sanctuary for our listening and visual pleasure.

WALLHANGING – SEEKING OWNER!!



The beautiful wall hanging pictured below was recently discovered in the Records and History storage room and we are seeking its owner. If you have any information regarding the wall hanging, please contact Kay Hunter.

STAFF PARISH RELATIONS COMMITTEE

Linda Kime, SPRC co-chair

As we begin 2023 for our congregation and employees, let us work closely together to make this a successful year for continuing smoothly to accomplish the best ministry for our church. Our employees have each been assigned SPRC liaisons who will serve as the direct communication between them and our church.

While we understand many of you have some excellent suggestions, or may know of some concerns, SPRC asks that you bring these to our committee so we can capture and relate these with our staff. It is the goal to not have our employees deal with requests from numerous people but look to their SPR liaison for direction. Of course, we welcome all compliments and gratitude be expressed to our employees! Our SPR committee members are as follows, with liaisons noted with their contact phone number

Matthew Ross

co-chair and liaison to **Sexton** Bill Rebillard

Linda Kime

co-chair and liaison to **Pastor** Sungmu Lee

Peter Perkins

liaison to **Treasurer** Walt Sargent

Julia Sweet

liaison to **Music Director** Tamari Witkin

Ida Franklin

liaison to **Office Manager** Martha Hillemeir

Hyacinth Ellis, 2nd year,

excellent contributor for 2022 numerous SPR hurdles

Pat Kelly, 1st year committee member

Guy Johansen, 1st year committee member

Rick Zeiser, 1st year committee member

Diane Hornaday, MUMC Lay Leader and Lay Member to Conference

SPRC has successfully constructed all new 2023 Employee Agreements which are signed, plus updated our MUMC Employee Policies & Procedures Handbook, which all five employees have signed. We have adjusted yearly wages to greatly help our budget constraints.

CENTRAL CONNECTICUT PARISH COUNCIL – CHURCH EVENTS

Kay Hunter

Two upcoming events at Parish churches to support and enjoy:

COFFEE HOUSE – Sat. March 11 – 6-9 pm
Asbury UMC Forestville, 90 Church Ave., Bristol. Local musicians. Free will offering to support renovation of carillon in bell tower.

PASTA SUPPER – Sat. March 25 – 4:30-7 pm
First UMC Torrington, 21 Fern Dr., Torrington. Pasta, meatballs, salad, bread, beverages and dessert. \$15 – children under 5 free. Take out available.

COMMUNICATIONS

BLAST E-MAILS: In an effort to cut down on the number of e-mails that are sent to the congregation, we will be sending **one blast e-mail every Wednesday** announcing and reminding all of upcoming events and important information. If you have something you would like included in this announcement, please forward to the church office and to me no later than Wednesday morning.

NEWSLETTERS: Please send all newsletter articles to me and to the church office as we will be combining forces to develop and publish the newsletter. In order to publish the newsletter in a timely manner, **please try to observe the due date**. Of course there are exceptions for timely events. Thanks for your help with accomplishing this.

BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP VISION, PURPOSE

Allen Nixon



Everyone grieves differently and in their own way, and your grief will vary from day to day. There is no simple answer or definitive process for your grief, but know that you are not alone. This is the fundamental benefit of MUMC's Bereavement Support Group, knowing you are not alone and to remember Christ is always with you, and His grace supports us.

This Support Group provides a safe place to share each other's experiences, concerns and emotions that may be causing pain. Talking with the group about one's experiences with grief and listening to what others have experienced affords a great benefit to understand and process our personal grief.

Your time with the Bereavement Support Group is a time specifically set aside for you to process your grief, away from distractions and the day-to-day frustrations and interruptions we all experience. Here you may cry, remain silent, and express your emotions without fear of judgment, as the members of this group understand what you are going through.

The Bereavement Support Group meets the **third Wednesday of every month, except July and August, from 10 am to 11:30am**. The meeting is held in the parlor and also on Zoom; the Zoom meeting ID and password will be sent to Group members several days prior to the meeting.



Wed.	3/1	7-8 pm	Lenten Study led by David Chase
Thu.	3/2	10:30-11:30 am	Lenten Study led by David Chase
Wed.	3/8	7-8 pm	Lenten Study led by David Chase
Thu.	3/9	10:30-11:30 am	Lenten Study led by David Chase
Sun.	3/12	10:30 Worship	Girl Scout Recognition
Wed.	3/15	7-8 pm	Lenten Study led by Diane Hornaday
Thu.	3/16	10:30-11:30 am	Lenten Study led by Diane Hornaday
Sat.	3/18	5 pm	St. Patrick's Day – Corned Beef and Cabbage Dinner
TBD		TBD	Youth – March Madness Game Watch Party
Wed.	3/22	7-8 pm	Lenten Study led by Diane Hornaday
Thu.	3/23	10:30-11:30 am	Lenten Study led by Diane Hornaday
Wed.	3/29	7-8 pm	Lenten Study led by Pastor Sungmu Lee
Thu.	3/30	10:30-11:30 am	Lenten Study led by Pastor Sungmu Lee
Sun.	4/2	9:30 am	Palm Sunday Conversation on Communion / Holy Week Workshop
Thu.	4/6	7 pm	Holy Thursday Services
Fri.	4/7	12 noon 7 pm	Parish Good Friday Services location TBD Good Friday Services at MUMC
Sun	4/9	6:30 am 8:30 am 9:30 am 10 am 10:30 am	Sunrise Service on the Patio Alleluia!!! Easter Worship Pot Luck Easter Breakfast Easter Egg Hunt Alleluia!!! Easter Worship
EASTER!!!!			
Wed.	4/12	7-8 pm	Lenten Study led by Pastor Sungmu Lee
Thu.	4/13	10:30-11:30 am	Lenten Study led by Pastor Sungmu Lee

PLEASE VISIT OUR WEBSITE TO FIND OUT LATEST HAPPENINGS!

www.avonunitedmethodist.com

CHECK OUT OUR FACEBOOK FOR NEWS! Avon Mumc

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