

## Guiding To and Growing Through the Christian Life

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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>

I have a friend of mine, who says, “I like every season. I like spring because of the beautiful flowers. I like summer because I can enjoy the bright sunshine. I like fall because of the beautiful colors of the falling leaves. I like winter because I love snow.” From her I learned how to think positively and how to live a thankful life.



On the other hand, one may say, “I hate spring because I always feel drowsy during the season. I do not like the summer because it is too hot to do anything. I hate autumn because of the falling leaves that I have to clean off my lawn and sweep out of my house. I hate winter because we have too much snow.”

According to our attitudes toward our lives, we may lead happy or unhappy lives. Happiness is not found on the outside but inside of our hearts. Summer is here. Although it could be very hot and humid, we may find positive things during the summer.

Summer is a meaningful season for me, the season when I began my ministry at our church a year ago. It is also summer when I came back to ministry from the 3-month medical leave after colon cancer surgery 8 years ago. I think about my vocation in the summer.

God has called each of us. Our vocations are different from one another. Yet, actually, it is the

same in that we are all supposed to praise God through our different vocations. We praise God as a pastor, or as a lay member, or as a volunteer for church activities, or a friend who helps our church family members quietly, or a congregation member who prays for our church and friends, or a humble Christian who prepares for our Sunday worship. Our roles are different but the same in that God is pleased by our dedication.

Why did God appoint each of us a special person who serves the Lord? This is not because we are brighter or nicer than other people. We just followed Jesus when he called us. The real qualification of Jesus’ disciples was their initial willingness to rise to their feet when Jesus called them to follow. Not once does this calling end. We have to follow Jesus every moment in our lives. It is not easy, but we can do it with the help of the Holy Spirit. This is the way of achieving our vocations.

During the summer we may have a vacation, take a trip, or have a rest at home. While enjoying the summer, let us think about our callings and how to praise God through our callings. May we have stronger faith and practice our callings willingly in our lives. Have a wonderful rest of summer!

Sungmu Lee

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## AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

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



7	Jake Sweet	26	Emily Brinn
8	Roger Couch	27	Julie (Dario) Zehren
12	Hope Storrs	28	Bruce Corbett
16	Joe Fillian	28	Michael Gorden
18	Sam Kazlauskas	30	Chris Calandriello
20	Jarrett Baker	30	Bobbie Williams
20	Wesley Stevens	31	Brody Zehren
24	Rick Mellon		

## AUGUST ANNIVERSARIES

“Happy Anniversary” to the following people who are celebrating anniversaries this month.

Michael & Jennifer (Smagin) Gorden  
 Brian and Kay Hunter  
 Walt and Sandy Sargent

If you would like your special day(s) added, please notify the church office at [avonmumc@gmail.com](mailto:avonmumc@gmail.com).

**CHECK OUT OUR FACEBOOK FOR NEWS! Avon Mumc**

## 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

# MISSIONS

Linda Johansen

The Missions committee has several upcoming events. They include:



1). A collection of back-to-school supplies for Covenant to Care backpacks. The case manager has been contacted and soon we will know the children's ages and number of backpacks needed. (No more than twenty.). Sign-up Genius will be used once again, for donations.



2). September 16th, Pedals for Progress will take place in our parking lot. Bicycles and sewing machines will be collected, along with a \$20.00 donation for each item. This is a non-profit organization that effectively recycles these items for motivated people in the developing world. Anne Fitzgerald is spearheading this project and Missions is assisting during the collection day.



3). September 30 Mission will be holding the annual Tag Sale, outside, near the Pumpkin Patch. If inclement weather, it will be held in the fellowship hall. Hours open: 9am-1pm. Missions will have a table of items for sale and other tables are available, if anyone would like to sell their own stuff. Please see Linda Johansen for more information.



4). Please remember to donate non-perishables to the Food Pantry in the parking lot.

5). Our next Missions meeting is September 7th at 6:15pm in Room 105. If interested, please come!



# REPORT OF TRUSTEES

John Fillian, Chair

Quick Update from the desk of the trustees Church Building - additional outlets have been installed in the choir loft for our AV team. This was to eliminate the extension cords and make the space more versatile. Thank You team for your dedication in supplying us with Quality sound and video.

Belts and a timer for the ventilation fans on the roof have been replaced with the help of Bill R. These are on the roof and in the attic of the second floor to supply fresh air to the classrooms.

A shout out to the group that decided to put AC in the sanctuary. It is certainly making Sunday mornings. Much more comfortable. especially this summer

## Building Use

Scikids The S.T.E.M. Program that has rented the lower four classrooms for four weeks was very pleased with our space and our hospitality. We thank you all. For welcoming Kavita. Although she didn't get the numbers, she was hoping for she is extremely optimistic and received many positive reviews.

## Church grounds

Pavilion is in Motion. Will be a very nice addition once finished thanks to all for their hard work. Plant Bed recapture will take place this fall. This is being put on hold for the health of the plants. Reminder that this is an open topic if anybody has any input.

And thank you for the team that took place in weeding.

Brush bin has been cleaned out. Thanks for the dump truck, Hal

Trustees thanks everybody for their hard work and dedication to the building and the grounds



## THE OTHER GOOD BOOK GROUP

Contact: Heather Kelsey,  
[hmkels@aol.com](mailto:hmkels@aol.com)  
(860) 670-1163

On Sunday August 20th we will meet for our annual "Reader's Choice" discussion. Read something from your personal list and be prepared to share your opinion of it (or them - if you read more than one) with the group. In addition to sharing titles we will put together a calendar for our 2023-2024 discussions so if you have ideas for titles, please bring them along. You don't need to have read a book to suggest it.

Our meeting will be held at 7pm in Fellowship Hall and all are welcome!

## AVON MEMORIAL UMC YOUTH GROUP

### POOL PARTY

Sunday August 13

Hosted by the Tardiffs at their home at 103 Barnes Hill Rd in Burlington Ct 06013.



MYF and families are welcome. Please RSVP to [bmwchick11474@aol.com](mailto:bmwchick11474@aol.com) or call 860-302-8899.

### ***Further upcoming events include:***

Basketball, games, BBQ at MUMC - Matt & Chalise Ross

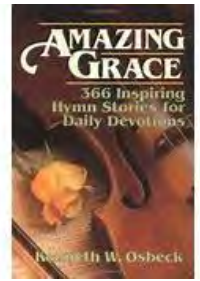
Ropes Course – Picnic Lunch at Winding Trails - Steve & Jenn Lamoureux

Rock climbing – Greg & Beth Slone

## WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

### Hymn Stories for Daily Devotions

Chris Calandriello



Ever wonder what lead writers and composers of the great hymns of our day to come up with the timeless classics that we still sing today? Now is your time to join us in learning about them in more depth. I will be leading a study on Saturday mornings based on the devotional book, Amazing Grace: 366 Inspiring Hymn Stories for Daily Devotions. There are scripture references which will correspond to the words that we will be studying and discussing what they mean in our lives. We will be singing these hymns, but no experience is necessary in reading the Bible or music! We will be praying as the Holy Spirit leads us and enjoying time together in fellowship.

If you are interested, please call, text, email, or speak with Chris Calandriello directly. Cell number is 860-604-5396, email address is [ccalandriello@comcast.net](mailto:ccalandriello@comcast.net), and I will be in worship during the month of August also. I highly encourage you to add this book to your collection, but it is not necessary for when you attend the study. You can get it on Amazon at this link, <https://a.co/d/ifmNumG>

The time of the study will be determined based on the majority of those attending. It will start in September and be on Saturday mornings as the last Women's Bible study was found to have lots of participants during that time. Invite others to attend who are not members of our church as this may be an opportunity to grow our membership along with reaching others in the community.



## FINANCE COMMITTEE

Greg Slone

Adjusting for carryover from last year, the current general fund balance as of the end of June was a year to date deficit of just over \$10,000.



**MUMC  
REVITALIZATION  
TASK FORCE**  
John Baily

A year ago, the Revitalization Task Force came together to foster the regrowth of MUMC. As we begin our second year, a reflection of the past year shows many successes and some failures. Our plans for the next year are ambitious. I would like to encourage more of our congregation to get involved. One of the impressive things is the number of people who just pitch in to help in our activities. If you would like to be more involved, we would love to have you volunteer. Just email, call or talk to one of us. We meet in the church and online on the fourth Tuesday of every month.

Some of the scheduled upcoming events include:

- Sep 10 September Fest – repeat of our well attended event of last year
- Sep 16 Pedals for Progress
- Sep 22 Potluck Supper
- Oct. Our very successful Pumpkin Patch. Events are scheduled for each weekend. One of those would be a **revival meeting** to open our new Gazebo. Stay tuned.

Other activities being considered or on the drawing board include

- multi week corn-hole tournament,
- sports day for youth
- autism program with outside expert
- program focused on retirement issues
- living nativity in December—a revival of a popular event from the past
- tutoring program- we are in need of someone to coordinate. We have several volunteers to tutor. This is an excellent opportunity for outreach to the community.

**This year we would like to see more outreach to the community.** The Pumpkin Patch has been a major, well accepted outreach. Let's build on that and **invite our communities to participate.**



**FIRST FRIDAY  
POTLUCK  
LUNCH**  
Friday, August 4  
12 noon

Let's keep it cool!!! Bring your favorite summer salad or dessert to share – if you can- but as always not compulsory – come to enjoy not only a great variety of good food – but also great conversation, friendship and fellowship!! Invite friends to join you!!! The more the merrier for sure!!!!

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**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.



While it is our intention to meet in the Memorial Garden when weather permits, if it does not cooperate, we meet in Fellowship Hall. 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, and grab a lawn chair (limited bench space available.) **There's always room for more!!! Just give us a try!!!!**

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**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. Thanks for your help in keeping us all informed and able to keep all in prayer.



## 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.

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### 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](mailto:avonmumc@gmail.com).



## MEAL FOR WINSTED

Laura Gorden

**August 5** 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:  
October 7  
December 2

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### 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.

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**CHECK OUT OUR FACEBOOK  
FOR NEWS! Avon Mumc**



**2023  
VACATION  
BIBLE CAMP  
"HERO HOTLINE"**  
August 14-18, 2023  
9:00 am – 12:15 pm

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

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

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.

Kids will explore the ultimate Hero Handbook -the Bible- to discover how all Heroes can follow the Bible Heroes in stories from the Old and New Testaments, who work together to bring peace, build each other up, and share the great story of God's love for us where they are and with the whole world.

As kids (called Heroes) experience these stories through music, drama and storytelling, games, arts and crafts, science and even snacks, they'll learn that Heroes are called to Follow Jesus, Help Others, Work Together, Listen to God, and Show Grace!

All children are invited to participate in Vacation Bible Camp – we have no limit on number of registrations. To register your child (grandchild, niece, nephew, friend) and to view more information go to:

[avonmumc.mycokesburyvbs.com](http://avonmumc.mycokesburyvbs.com)

Questions? Contact:

Diane Hornaday at [dhornaday@sbdglobal.net](mailto:dhornaday@sbdglobal.net),  
Beth Slone at [aliannabet@yahoo.com](mailto:aliannabet@yahoo.com) or  
Kay Hunter Kay Hunter via [the church office](#).

**SUMMER  
FELLOWSHIP HOUR**

Linda Kime



For Summer we **need volunteers** for fellowship hour! Please contact Linda Kime if you are willing to set out cool beverage and a light snack for social time on patio. A table will be waiting outside sanctuary. Rolling cart in kitchen will have cups, plates & napkin dispenser, plus empty pitcher for making ice water or lemonade. Only serve 1 ITEM, not variety. Examples: mini danish, donettes, store bought cookies, veggies, fruit, crackers & hummus. It's very easy! Please contact [lmk318@aol.com](mailto:lmk318@aol.com) or 860-305-0536



**Treasurer**

**MUMC NEW  
TREASURER**

Linda Kime, SPR Co-chair

As representatives of SPR- Pastor Sungmu, Diane and I had an interview with David Gorden on Tuesday, July 11. David accepted the treasurer position and wants to start training when the pavilion construction winds down. In August, September and October, he will spend some time with Walt Sargent (current treasurer), Diane Hornaday (financial secretary), Carol Merritt (assistant treasurer) and Finance Committee meetings learning the ropes of the treasurer job and its communication with these roles in financial management of our church. It is the hope that by November 1 David can fully take on the job and Walt can retire.

However, during our interview, we learned that David wants to be a volunteer treasurer until December 31, 2023. Therefore, the Committee on Nominations and Leadership Development will be advising on the volunteer treasurer job and then David will sign an employee contract as a paid treasurer commencing January 1, 2024 when this becomes a Staff-Parish Relations matter.

# CT CENTRAL COOPERATIVE PARISH

Within The United Methodist Church, cooperative parishes enable congregations and pastors in a defined geographic area to develop relationships of trust and mutuality that results in coordinated church programs and ministry. The six churches in our Parish are:

Avon: Memorial	Litchfield and Bantam
Bristol: Prospect	Plainville
Forestville: Asbury	Torrington: First

The pastors of the six churches meet regularly. Our Parish Council is laity driven and consists of two representatives from each of the 6 churches,

with the pastors of the six churches serving in an advisory capacity. MUMC members serving on the Council are Diane Hornaday and Kay Hunter.

Pastors meet regularly. Council meets monthly rotating meeting places at the six churches where we endeavor to develop relationships among our church congregations through planning events to include all as well as sharing information regarding programs at each of the churches.



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## PARISH SPONSORED EVENTS

### LET THERE BE PEACE ON EARTH

A Walk for Continued Conflict Awareness  
Sunday, August 13 2 pm

A 1.2 mile walk from Federal Hill Green, Bristol, to Hoppers Birge Pond Nature Preserve. Including recognition of two important dates in Korean history. Please refer to attached flyer with details.

### MEADOW GATHERING

Litchfield Saturday, 9/23 11-2  
(rain date Sun., 9/24 1-3)

Tapping Reeve Meadow, Litchfield

Time to sit and chat, visit museum, stroll the streets of Litchfield. Lunch provided. Bring chairs, blankets, games, etc.

### OLD FASHION REVIVAL

Memorial UMC, Saturday, October 14

Gathering of our congregations and communities for a day of music, celebration, activities, and praise – our first use of our new pavilion!!!

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## CHURCH EVENTS

**ASBURY UMC**, 90 Church Ave., Bristol

**BLUEBERRY BASH** Saturday, 8/5

Pancake breakfast starts 8am- 10am

Vendors 10am - 2pm

Food, fun and delicious Blueberry Treats!  
Hot Dogs, Pie slices, cobbler, sundaes. Frozen unbaked pies - Rain or Shine!!

**COFFEE HOUSE**

September 30, 6-8:30 pm Free will donation; refreshments available

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## SHARING EDUCATIONAL MATERIALS

Diane Hornaday

As you know by now, Kay Hunter and I join Sungmu on the Parish Council. In addition to the monthly meetings we also serve on one or more of the subcommittees. I am working with others on the Education Committee. One opportunity we are offering the churches of our parish is to share curriculum materials with others after a local congregation has completed a study.

Asbury UMC, Forestville, would like to use materials we have available from the **24 HOURS THAT CHANGED THE WORLD**, by Adam Hamilton, that Sungmu led for our Lenten study. If you were a part of the study group, still have your copy of the book and would be willing to let another church use it please bring it to the church and leave it in the Parlor.

Thank you for supporting this project.



## MEMORIAL'S FOOD PANTRY



**Please help keep our food pantry stocked.** Please bring non-perishable food items to drop off in a cart that will be at the back of the sanctuary. At all other times food items can be dropped off in the blue bin located outside the kitchen or you can just put your food items inside the food pantry cupboard located in the upper parking lot of the church.

### Most useful food pantry donations:

- Boxed milk or Powdered milk
- Pasta sauce and pasta
- Mac and cheese
- Canned vegetables/fruits
- Single serve applesauce and fruit cups

- Soups
- Tuna
- Canned meats
- Beef Stew
- Stuffing
- Knorr sides
- Single serve rice cups
- Beans/black, red, navy, baked
- Cereal
- Instant Oatmeal
- Cereal bar/protein bars/ granola bars
- Cracker packs
- Peanut butter
- Jelly
- Coffee/Tea/Hot Chocolate
- Vegetable Oil
- Cake mix/Cookie mix
- Mayonnaise/Salad dressing
- Personal hygiene products



Date	Time	Pg.	Event
Fri 8/4	12 pm	5	First Friday Pot Luck Lunch
Sat 8/5	8-2	8	Asbury UMC Blueberry Bash
Sat 8/5	9 am	6	Meal for Winsted
Sun 8/13	TBD	4	Youth Pool Party
Sun 8/13	2 pm	8	Peace Walk in Bristol
Mon-Fri 8/14-18	9 am	7	Vacation Bible Camp
Sun 8/20	7 pm	4	Other Good Book Group
Sun 9/10	10:30 am		Septemberfest!!!
Sun 9/17	8:30 & 10:30 am 9:30 am		Return to regular worship times Sunday School begins!!
Sat 9/23	11 am-2 pm	8	Meadow Gathering – Litchfield (Raindate 9/24 1-3)
Sat 9/30	6-8:30 pm	8	Asbury UMC Coffee House

**EASE VISIT OUR WEBSITE TO FIND OUT LATEST HAPPENINGS!**  
[www.avonunitedmethodist.com](http://www.avonunitedmethodist.com)

MEMORIAL UM CHURCH  
867 WEST AVON ROAD  
AVON, CT 06001

