

Guiding To and Growing Through the Christian Life

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Church Office: (860) 673-2111
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Church Email: avonmumc@gmail.com
Website: avonunitedmethodist.com

Sunday Worship Schedule:
8:30am Worship Service with Communion
9:30am Sunday School for all ages
10:30am Family Worship Service

Church Office Hours: Tue, Wed, Fri 11 am - 4 pm
Sexton Hours; Mon-Sat 6-8 am Mon-Thu 1-2 pm
(estimate) on call as needed via cell (860) 960-3360

On line worship:
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/avon.mumc/>
Youtube <https://www.youtube.com/user/AvonMUMC>

Generally our opening article in the MUMC Newsletter is of a spiritual nature. This month it will be informational and, hopefully, helpful.

As you are reading this the General Conference being held in Charlotte, N.C. is about halfway in completing its work. Many of our members have a great deal of interest in what is being discussed and acted upon. You can participate in the Conference virtually by tuning in to live streaming of plenary sessions, worship services and key events. Kay Hunter, our Communications Director, has forwarded to you the website and links: General Conference and/or <https://www.facebook.com/NYACUMC>. Another recommended source is ResourceUMC.org.

You may also advocate for your views through the delegates from the New York Annual Conference. Our delegates are: Laity: Frederick K. Brewington, Jorge Lockwood, Gail Douglas-Boykin. Clergy: Noel Chin, Denise Smart-Sears, Timothy J. Riss. The reserve delegates are: Laity: Tiffany French-Goff, Roena Littlejohn, Karen Prudente. The Clergy are: Rev. Paul Fleck, Rev. Chungo James Kim, Rev. Marjorie Nunes. They may each be contacted via email using his/her last name@nyac-umc.com.



Many proposals have been received for consideration. Major areas to be addressed will include, Regionalization, Denominational Structure (including proposals to restore and expand the disaffiliation process), Higher Education and the Ordained Ministry, and the Budgetary Implications moving forward.

Let us here at Memorial be very intentional in our prayers for all the delegates from around the world that they be involved in holy conferencing, reflecting and speaking in words that will bring people to Jesus Christ. And let us remember that children's hymn we all know:

**"I am the church, You are the church,
We are the church together,
All who follow Jesus, All around the world,
es! We're the church together".**

Diane Hornaday,
Lay Member to Conference

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MAY BIRTHDAYS



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

- | | | | |
|----|-----------------|----|-------------------|
| 1 | Linda Arnold | 22 | Donna Baily |
| 1 | Don Austin | 22 | Dave Crompton |
| 1 | Greg Slone | 22 | Jennifer Hunter |
| 2 | Jan Colturi | 24 | Luke Slone |
| 5 | Santosh Oommen | 25 | Ben Bruinsma |
| 6 | David Corbett | 25 | Mark Borenstein |
| 7 | Laura Gorden | 26 | Julie Notestine |
| 8 | Anna Lee Flinn | 26 | Ken Notestine |
| 9 | Jennifer Smagin | 28 | Alan Kennedy |
| 10 | Natalie Corbett | 29 | Brian Hunter, Jr. |
| 22 | Troy Shingleton | | |

MAY ANNIVERSARIES

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

Ben and Pat Bruinsma
 Roger and Joan Couch
 Robert and Tina Tardiff

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

REMEMBERING THOSE WHO HAVE TROUBLE GETTING OUT



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

2024 CONNECTICUT DISTRICT CONFERENCE



Saturday, May 4, 2024

Trinity Church

180 Park Avenue, Windsor, CT

Did you know that District Conference serves as the prerequisite for Annual Conference? Each district is required to convene prior to Annual Conference which serves as a cornerstone event where members from all corners of our district come together to connect, elect leadership & trustees, share ideas, and inspire one another. It's an unparalleled opportunity to engage with fellow members, exchange insights, and gain valuable knowledge that will undoubtedly enrich your personal and professional journey.

Schedule:

8:30 AM - 9:00 AM Continental Breakfast
9:00 AM - 12:00 PM Proven Techniques of How to Grow Your Church Through Evangelism
12:00 PM - 12:45 PM Lunch
1:00 PM District Conference, Renowned Guest Speaker Dr. Leonard Sweet, The Connecticut District Mass Choir, and more!

Throughout the conference, you can expect:

- **GREAT** Worship & Fellowship
- Election of Trustees and District Leadership
- Networking Opportunities to forge meaningful connections with fellow members and leaders.
- Updates on CT District news & current events
- Guest speaker Dr. Leonard Sweet

Let us stay mindful of our guiding theme "Stronger Together" as we navigate through this journey. During this event you will gain the tools to feel empowered and comfortable evangelizing, which will foster positive change, and the ability to make meaningful transformation within your communities. As a valued member of the CT District, your presence

and participation will contribute significantly to the success and vibrancy of this event.

Your presence at District Conference is not only valued but crucial to the collective growth and success of our district. We firmly believe that your unique perspectives and experiences will enrich the dialogue and encourage innovation within our district.

Please mark your calendar and make plans to join us for this important occasion. We look forward to welcoming you with open arms and experiencing the spirit of camaraderie and collaboration that defines our district.

Go to MUMC Website – avonunitedmethodist.com to register.

We're meeting at the church to carpool to Windsor at **8 am** – please let Kay Hunter know if you are interested so we know to expect you. avonmumc@gmail.com – use CONFERENCE as subject.

CINCO DE MAYO DINNER



Sunday, May 5
Serving 5-6 pm



Come – enjoy a variety of Mexican dishes including Tortilla casserole, tacos, beans and rice, corn-bean salsa & chips, and Mexican chocolate desserts!

Invite family, friends, neighbors for good food, fellowship. Free will donations will once again benefit MUMC's food pantry. The need there is great and we want to keep it full!!





Thursday, May 2

9-10 am (rain or shine)

All are invited to an observance of the National Day of Prayer at the covered bridge at Countryside Park, 335 Huckleberry Hill Road, Avon



PEACE MARCH

Saturday, May 18

1-3 pm

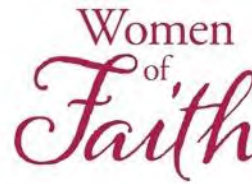
Federal Hill Green, Bristol

We are hoping that members of MUMC will support and participate in the Peace Walk hosted by the Bristol Interfaith Coalition. Rather than march to a different location, participants will march around the green, holding signs and banners in an interfaith, multi-cultural demonstration for peace. All are welcome to come and be part of this day for Peace even if you are unable to actually participate in the march. Seating will be available.

In the tradition of similar faith-led peace walks and marches throughout the country, Rev Kun Sam Cho, Pastor of the Asbury United Methodist Church in Forestville, CT inspired this year's event in hopes of fostering a culture of peace within and outside of our community...

As part of the opening ceremony at 1 pm, our Parish will lead the singing of two hymns from the United Methodist Hymnal: "Let There Be Peace on Earth" #431 and "Dona Nobis Pacem" #376. Lyric sheets will be available at the site. Won't you join us???

Federal Hill is located at 190 Summer STREET in Bristol.



**WOMEN OF
FAITH AT
MEMORIAL!!!!
Saturday, May 11
12 noon**

We've heard of much interest in developing a women's group at Memorial. Way back when - we had Women's Society for Christian Service (WSCS) which then became United Methodist Women (UMW). We were Women for Fellowship and Service (WFS) for many years, and it's been many years since we had an organized women's group at MUMC.

We are hoping to "revitalize" our women's group at MUMC and hope you will choose to be part of it. Our group can include the opportunity for socialization, Bible and other studies, fellowship, support, missions and just having fun together as Christian women!!!!

Won't you join us for lunch on Saturday, May 18 at noon where we can share ideas and brainstorm? If you can, bring a salad, plate of your favorite sandwiches or dessert to share. Beverages will be provided.

If you can't make it on the 18th, please share your ideas with us (Chris Calandriello and Kay Hunter).



**HONORING OUR
MOTHERS
Mothers' Day
May 12**

We are inviting all to honor and remember their mothers by bringing photos for a display in Fellowship Hall during Fellowship Hour. Index cards will be available for you to identify your moms by name as well as to enter your name.

We hope you will all take advantage of this opportunity so we can all enjoy this display.

FIRST FRIDAY POT LUCK LUNCH Friday, May 3 12 pm

Spring is here!!! We will celebrate it by enjoying the floral decorations that have been placed in Fellowship Hall – spring is new beginnings!!!

We hope to see many folks come out to enjoy our lunch together. Always great food and fellowship!!! Invite friends both within and beyond MUMC to join you!! Bring a dish to share if you can, but there's always plenty if you can't.

MUMC MISSIONS AT WORK

Laura Gorden, Committee Chair

With the support of our congregation, the Missions Committee was able to give the following donations:

\$1,000 to Project Adopt a Village

\$1,000 to CT Foodshare



On **April 6** we delivered 64 meatloaf meals to Winsted. Thank you to Sue Yankus, Brenda, Beth and Daniel Slone, Makayla and Robert Tardiff,

and David Gorden who helped me cook the food, fill food containers, wash dishes, clean the kitchen, and deliver the meals to Winsted. Next Winsted meal preparation is **June 1**. Always looking for people to help me with this mission project.

The Soup Supper/Soup Sales hosted by the Missions Committee raised **\$484** to be used for various mission projects throughout 2024. Thank you all for your participation in this event.



REVITALIZATION!!

Kay Hunter Kevin Sweet

In addition to our Cinco de Mayo scheduled for Sunday, May 5, we have a couple of events scheduled for June and many more in the works for coming months. We always welcome suggestions and ideas for programs, activities, events to sponsor at Memorial. We'd love to hear from you.



2nd Annual CAR SHOW

Saturday, June 8 12-4

(Rain date: 6/15)

Free Food-Free Raffle

CHURCH FAMILY PICNIC

Sunday, June 23

following 9:30 am worship

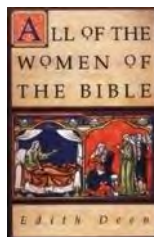
Bring a dish to share and enjoy good food, fellowship and friendship on the upper church patio and on the grounds around the pavilion. Games for kids!!! And ice cream sundaes!!!

We sincerely hope you will all join us in our efforts to reach out to the unchurched in our communities and bring them to MUMC so they can experience the fellowship, friendship, worship and most especially to develop relationships with God and Jesus. That's our ultimate goal!!!

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

Women of the Bible

Chris Calandriello



Women's Bible study continues on **Saturday mornings 10-11:30 am** in the Parlor and now on Zoom!!! Studying Women of the Bible, based on the book, **All the Women of the Bible**, by Edith

Deen. Bring or have your Bible on hand to participate!!! Come when you can.



SEEKING GRADUATE INFORMATION

Education Committee

We would love to celebrate your academic accomplishments and share with the congregation. If you are a recent high school graduate (or a member in your family), please send information, including the name of the high school and future plans, along with a class or similar picture (can be scanned and returned).

We would also appreciate information on any recent college degrees. Please email information to Beth Slone at aliannabet@yahoo.com.

PAIRS AND SPARES 2024

Anne Fitzgerald

Last year we resumed this fun practice of having dinner at other church members' homes and will be doing the same this year. You can be part of a couple or a single. In 2023 we were two couples and one single. Each host then invited three other different people each time, one couple and a single or three singles. We met in three different homes with the host providing the entree and the others everything else.

At the first dinner, the group decides who will host next and when, then that host will invite another couple or single(s). The date decision can be made later when convenient. Repeat the third time. There is no specific time frame, just whenever it works out for the core group's schedules during 2024.

If you would like to sign up, please email me at afitzgerald138@gmail.com or call at 860-573-1216.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR ALTAR FLOWERS

Barbara Chase / Linda Arnold

The **2024 Calendar** for altar flowers is up and running. Choose a week for your arrangement by using our Altar Flowers 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.



The price for altar flowers is \$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 11 am to 4 pm.

At this time, **May 19** and **all Sundays in June and July** are open for a flower dedication. Please consider this and any other future dates.

THURSDAY LUNCH BUNCH



Lunch Bunch is a casual get together of MUMCers every Thursday at noon (except week of First Friday Potluck Lunch). We meet in Fellowship Hall and bring our own lunches, sometimes share some cookies. It has become such an enjoyable custom.

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 beverage. Coffee and tea are available. **There's always room for more!!! Just give us a try!!!!**



MEMORIAL GARDEN

Hello Garden Lovers,

We are back in the saddle again! We're pointed in the right direction and eager to see brightly colored flowers and bright green leaves to shade the sun. I'm noticing this year, even more than last year, that temperature patterns have shifted. The poppy plants around the flagpole started growing weeks earlier than usual. In the past, the poppies have bloomed in early June. It's just my guess, but start watching the poppies in mid-May. Also, our regular crop of annuals will be planted somewhere during mid-May. And, again, since the temperature patterns have shifted, we may be able to plant sooner rather than later.

The Garden Committee invites everyone to visit the garden to rest, and relax, and be at peace with the world. PLEASE visit the garden on a regular schedule, or occasionally as your busy schedule will allow, to watch the garden grow over time as it goes from wonderful to even more wonderful. Bring a friend to share the experience, have a relaxing lunch, come to meditate, commune with nature, or be with a loved one who is remembered in the garden. Just come to the garden. You will never regret it.

Peace,
Jeff Tremback
Memorial Garden Committee chairperson

CT DISTRICT EVANGELISM INITIATIVE 24-25

Kay Hunter

Our Connecticut District Retreat which was held at West Hartford UMC offered great information, guidance and hope from Rev. Frederick Douglas Powe for regrowing our UM churches. Diane Hornaday and I attended the full day Friday session for pastors and parish leaders – how to grow through Evangelism!!!

Linda Kime, Linda Arnold and Chris Calandriello joined us on Saturday to hear further from Dr. Powe. We also had the opportunity to enjoy wonderful fellowship at continental breakfasts and lunches.

The program concluded with an incredible concert led by Rev. Jeremiah Paul of Hamden Plains UMC with a variety of music provided by groups and choirs from all over our district. Jeremiah shared that this is just the first of many more to come.

KEEP US INFORMED FOR PASTORAL CARE

Just a reminder that if you should hear of someone from the congregation who is ill or has another need for pastoral care, please the **Pastor or Kay Hunter, chair of 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. Better to get several messages than none.

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

CHURCHERY SCHOOL

Jean Baron, Director

May is a bittersweet time for the Churchery School, we celebrate a year full of wonderful memories but also say goodbye to some of the children we've worked with. Many we have known for 3 years because they started with us in the 2's class. Along with many year-end activities, the children will make special gifts for their mothers for Mother's Day. We will celebrate the children and their families with year-end picnics the last week of school. Please join us for our last concert on May 13 at 6:00pm, I promise you will enjoy the beautiful voices of our 4's class. I would like to acknowledge the Churchery team of teachers who once again have worked hard to have another successful year. I am blessed to work with Susan Green, Yuki Sobue, Jenn Lamoureux, Jessica Morin and Jaclyn Pare. They are exceptional teachers who have hearts of gold. Thank you, Courtney Robinson the president of our school and Betsy Sargent our treasurer for all you do to support us!!

Happy Summer!



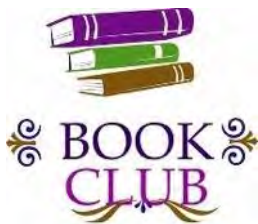
KEEPING KITCHEN SUPPLIES PLENTIFUL!!



If you are working in the kitchen and should discover that we are low on a supply – whether it be napkins, coffee cups, plastic ware, or even coffee, please make note of this on the clipboard that our sexton, Bill, has placed by the kitchen phone.

Just jot down the note and Bill will see to it that the supply is replenished. Thanks for your help with keeping our cupboards full. Thanks to Bill for taking care of this for us!!!!

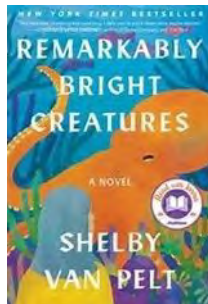




THE OTHER GOOD BOOK GROUP

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

Our May discussion will cover *Remarkably Bright Creatures* by Shelby Van Pelt. "After Tova Sullivan's husband died, she began working the night shift at the Sowell Bay Aquarium, mopping floors and tidying up. Keeping busy has always helped her cope, which she's been doing since her eighteen-year-old son, Erik, mysteriously vanished on a boat in Puget Sound over thirty years ago.



Tova becomes acquainted with curmudgeonly Marcellus, a giant Pacific octopus living at the aquarium. Marcellus knows more than anyone can imagine but wouldn't dream of lifting one of his eight arms for his human captors--until he forms a remarkable friendship with Tova. Ever the detective, Marcellus deduces what happened the night Tova's son disappeared. And now Marcellus must use every trick his old invertebrate body can muster to unearth the truth for her before it's too late. Shelby Van Pelt's **debut novel** is a gentle reminder that sometimes taking a hard look at the past can help uncover a future that once felt impossible." [goodreads.com]

Our discussion will be held on Sunday, **May 19th at 7pm**. Our meetings are hybrid (in the Parlor and on Zoom) and all are welcome!



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 at Memorial -in the interest of safety and wellbeing of all and especially our little ones.



2024 MUMC VACATION BIBLE CAMP

MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOW
MON-FRI AUGUST 12-16
9 am – 12:15 pm

Age 3 as of 8/12 (must be potty trained) to those completing Grade 4
\$25 per child; max. \$60 per family

***Whenever I'm afraid
I put my trust in You.
Psalm 56:3***

Surrounded by water, trees, and rolling hills, Camp Firelight is the perfect location for every Camper's favorite summer activities! During each assembly session, Campers join first-time camp counselor Sam and Lu (short for Lumen), the lightning bug puppet, and learn to face their fears while trusting in God.

Our campers will explore timeless Bible stories that show how Old and New Testament Campers trusted God in the face of their own fears and went on to do great things in God's name.

All children are invited to participate in Vacation Bible Camp – we have no limit on number of registrations – but early registrations help us in planning and organization.

To register your child (grandchild, niece, nephew, friend) and to view more information go to our website avonunitedmethodist.com and look for VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL in the menu.

If you are interested in joining the fun this year as part of the staff, please contact Beth Slone at aliannabet@yahoo.com or Diane Hornaday at dhornaday@sbdglobal.net.

PARISH NEWS

\$1.24 MILLION GRANT

At Bishop's Day in Meriden, we received word that The United Methodist City Society (UMCS) received a **\$1.25 million grant** through the **Lilly Endowment's Thriving Congregations Initiative**.

This generous endowment will be used to enhance the UMCS partnership with the New York Annual Conference (NYAC) of the United Methodist Church and **build upon NYAC's cooperative parish ministry** model launched in 2021 as an innovative response to the issues of long-term demographic shifts, declining attendance, and clergy shortages currently plaguing all denominations.

UMCS Chief Executive Officer and Executive Director, Rev. Angela M. Redman, Esq. is enthusiastic about the possibilities, noting how this new funding will allow "cooperative parish leaders to have both a spiritual and an organizational framework to understand their new parish identity, learn new ways to function together, and develop shared ministries that allow each to make use of their buildings in ways that reflect a new and more community-focused identity. I'm grateful that we can now lean more fully into this promising ministry model."

Bishop Bickerton initiated the cooperative parish system in the NYAC three years ago as an innovative means to advance mission and ministry, while stimulating creative and collaborative engagement among clergy and laity.

During the heart of the Pandemic, some NYAC churches found the architecture of the cooperative parish system became a vehicle for support, collaboration, planning, and enhanced communication, Bishop Bickerton says, adding that "shared ministry through cooperative parishes offers a means to tap into the gifts of neighboring churches and fill the void created by the inability to carry out ministry as usual in these transitional times for the church.

CHANGES IN OUR PARISH

Our District Superintendent Alpher Sylvester attended our Parish Council meeting at MUMC last Thursday (4/25) to share the news of some reorganization of our Connecticut Parishes.

With the closing of Winsted UMC and the sharing of pastor appointment in other churches in the Farmington River Parish, it became apparent that they needed to include additional churches in that Parish. Therefore effective July 1, Memorial, Litchfield-Bantam and Torrington UMCs will be joining Simsbury UMC and neighboring smaller churches - Pleasant Valley, Copper Hill, North Canton and Washington Hill - to become part of the Farmington River Parish.

Plainville, Asbury and Prospect UMCs will become part of the Midstate Parish which consists of Cheshire, Walingford, Durham, Middlefield, Southing and Yalesville.

All changes are for the greater good of our ministries.

Rev. Sylvester made it clear to us that the parishes have "invisible lines" – meaning that we are welcome and encouraged to continue our relationships with the churches of our current parish. We will continue with events we have already committed to.

We will have one final time together as the members of our Central Ct. Parish Council have already made plans for our "last hurrah" sharing a pot luck supper together here at Memorial in June.

Our ministries and partnership will continue while we commit ourselves to be an active participant in the Farmington River Parish with the leadership of Rev. Gene Ott of Simsbury UMC.



TRUSTEES REPORT

John Fillian, President

Sliding into spring time . And we were able to get the grounds cleaned up before Easter. A Big Thank You for all that helped. We tried set a date but the weather wasn't cooperating. So some last minute phone call and quick planning we got it done.

We were also able to get to the parsonage recently to take care of the mess winter left behind. And a Thank You for the help their as well.

Church Building - We had to spend some money on the boiler in April. A couple problems came up during winter so we decided to wait until it warmed up to shut the system down to do the repairs. Consisted of a new pressure release valve, a couple air release valves, new expansion tank and the install of a new water auto feed . In this install we reworked the plumbing and added new valves.

Building Usage - Looks as though our friends from Sci-Kids will be back this summer with many new faces coming through our doors. Let's greet them with a smile.

That's' it for now. Thank You All

MUMC COMMITTEES OPEN MEETINGS

Do you have an interest in what's happening with MUMC committees ...church council? Have ideas, questions, concerns? Please be aware that with the exception of Staff Parish Relations and Nominations Committees which require confidentiality – ALL meetings are open for anyone to attend. While all have a voice, only committee members have a vote. All input and ideas are appreciated. We would love to hear from you....Our website calendar lists all committee meetings.



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 along 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 11:30 am.** 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.



FELLOWSHIP HOUR

Linda Kime

Fellowship Hour in Fellowship Hall after Sunday worship continues to be a vital time of conversation and fellowship.

Responsibility for hosting Fellowship Hour rotates among the many committees of MUMC. Keeping it very light and simple this year. We appreciate the committee members giving us this service.

May Fellowship Hour Hosts are Revitalization / Membership and Memorials Committees.

Memorials Committee accepts, records and acknowledges all memorial and special gifts made to MUMC. Also makes recommendations to the Board of Trustees regarding the thoughtful disposition of said monies or items. Maintains record of all donations received and items purchased for the church with these donations.

Revitalization / Membership Committees have joined forces to develop and maintain a calendar of activities to provide fellowship and growth among our members as well as to bring members of our community into our church fellowship and family. We work with our congregation to share their faith in our community, reaching outside our family of faith with open arms.



KATIE MORRIS'S 96TH BIRTHDAY PARADE



BIG thanks to all who were able to join us for a birthday parade following fellowship hour on Katie's Birthday, April 21.

We had signage declaring her birthday on her front lawn. We drove by with our flashers on, honking our horns, with balloons, and birthday signs and shouting our happy birthday wishes to Katie.

We were pleased and happy to find Katie seated on her porch. Her entire family was there to celebrate her birthday. Family members were taking photos of the parade. Her daughter shared that this was the highlight of her day. We brought tears to her eyes.

Following the parade, Kathryn delivered the altar flowers that had been given in her honor and they were able to visit a bit.

Such an easy thing for us to do that brought so much joy to Katie!!!



MEMORIAL'S FOOD PANTRY

Please help keep our food pantry stocked by bringing non-perishable food items to be dropped off in the blue bin located outside the kitchen. If you would prefer to make a monetary donation to the missions committee, notated for food pantry, I am willing to do the shopping. The need continues to grow!!!!

- Boxed milk or Powdered milk
- Cereal/Instant Oatmeal
- Pasta sauce and pasta
- Mac and cheese
- Soups/beef stew
- Canned fruits
- Tuna/salmon
- Canned meats/chicken, beef, spam
- Rice
- Beans/black, red, navy, baked
- Peanut butter/Jelly
- Coffee/Tea/Hot Chocolate
- Personal hygiene products

Most useful food pantry donations for the winter season:



Day/Date	Time	Event	Pg.
Thu. 5/2	9-10 am	National Day of Prayer	2
Fri. 5/3	12 pm	First Friday Potluck Lunch	5
Sat 5/4	8:30-2:30	Connecticut District Conference	3
Sun 5/5	5-6 pm	Cinco de Mayo Mexican Supper	3
Sat. 5/11	12 pm	Women of Faith Luncheon	4
Sun 5/12		MOTHER'S DAY	4
Wed. 5/15	8-9 am	Men's Breakfast Group – Friendly's Avon	-
Wed 5/15	10-11:30 am	Bereavement Support Group	11
Sun 5/19	7 pm	Other Good Book Group	9
Sat. 6/5	12-4 pm	Car Show (rain date: 6/12)	5
Sun 6/19	10:0 am	Church Family Picnic	5
Mon-Fri 8/12-16	9-12	Vacation Bible Camp	9

**PLEASE VISIT OUR WEBSITE TO FIND OUT LATEST HAPPENINGS
AND UP TO DATE INFORMATION!**

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**MEMORIAL UM CHURCH
867 WEST AVON ROAD
AVON, CT 06001**