

**Guiding To and Growing Through the Christian Life**

**Pastor, Rev. Sungmu Lee PhD**

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Church Email: [avonmumc@gmail.com](mailto:avonmumc@gmail.com)  
Website: [avonmumc.org](http://avonmumc.org)

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

**Summer Office Hours:** Tue., Wed & Fri 11 am-2 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: [www.facebook.com/avonmumc](http://www.facebook.com/avonmumc)  
YouTube: [www.youtube.com/avonmumc](http://www.youtube.com/avonmumc)

As I recall my ministry at our church during the past three years, I thank God for God's guidance and each of you for your faithful service: there have been a lot of good memories! Yet, it is true that there have been some tough moments, and I am also thankful for them because you and I have matured in spirit through difficulties. What is important is that we experience God's presence both in happy moments and tough moments.



break from Sunday worship. If you do not want to worship regularly or serve with the people of God, it is a sign of serious spiritual crisis. You may have to see your pastor for counselling.

I often say it is very difficult to be a Christian, a follower of Jesus Christ, because we sometimes have to fight against human nature. We just want to take it easy on Sunday mornings or go on a picnic, but to be followers of Jesus Christ, we go to church, worship God, experience God's grace, and share it with our neighbors.

About three years ago, when I had the introduction meeting with the Committee on Staff-Parish Relations, I said, "I will not bring a magic lamp to our church, but I am sure you and I will make a difference." With the help of the Holy Spirit, we have done ministry in harmony and love, and I would like us to keep doing faithful work together. It sometimes requires more energy and more time to keep doing good work.

I feel that going to church is like doing exercise: I sometimes do not want to go to gym, but when I come back home, I have never regretted it, feeling better and happier. Summer is the time to slow down, but please do not take too much of a

During the summer let us take a rest, energize ourselves, be uplifted in spirit, be closer to God, and help others in need, so that we may continually make our church extraordinary in the sight of God. Happy summer!

Sungmu Lee

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## FIRST FRIDAY POT LUCK LUNCH Friday, August 1 at noon



Take a break from the heat and meet us for First Friday Pot Luck Lunch in Fellowship Hall.

Bring a dish to share – if you can but not compulsory. Your favorite main or side dish, salad, snack, rolls or dessert!!!

Come join us for good food, conversation, fellowship and friendship!!

## 2025 VACATION BIBLE CAMP

**August 11-15**  
**9 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.**

Memorial United  
Methodist Church



**Age 3 as of 8/11 (must be potty trained)**  
**to those completing Grade 4**  
**\$25 per child; max. \$60 per family**

***"The Lord your God is with you  
wherever you go." Joshua 1:9***

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.

**Camperships** are available. Register your child and then contact Kay Hunter via [the online form](#) for confidential paid status.

Lessons for the week include:

Abraham and Sarah Follow God (Genesis 12:1-9)  
- God is with us on the journey.

The Israelites Take the Scenic Route (Exodus 13:17-22) - God is with us when we go off course.

Mary & Elizabeth's Family Reunion (Luke 1:39-56) - God is with us when we're joyful.

Jesus Visits Zacchaeus (Luke 19:1-10) - God is with us when we're lonely.

On the Road with Paul (Acts 18:1- God is with us near and far.

Daily activities include opening assembly, music, crafts, recreation, Bible stories, science, snacks, reflection time, and closing assembly!!!

To register your child (grandchild, niece, nephew, friend) or to as a volunteer, and to view more information go to:

[avonmumc.org/vbc](http://avonmumc.org/vbc)

**All** are invited to attend opening assemblies each day at 9 am and closing assemblies each day at approximately 12 noon.

MUMC PRESENTS  
an LGBTQ class led by Ms. Julia Sweet



**Sunday, August 3, 10:30 am**  
**Following 9:30 worship**

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## MUMC MISSIONS AT WORK

Laura Gorden, Committee Chair  
Contact via [the online form](#)

## WINSTED MEALS

**August 2** 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. **THIS WILL BE THE LAST TIME WE SERVE WINSTED, UNLESS SOMEONE STEPS UP TO TAKE THE LEAD ON THIS MISSION PROJECT.**



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## UPCOMING TAG SALE

**October 11** the MUMC Missions Committee will be holding a tag sale in Fellowship Hall from 9am to 1pm. Church families are invited to sell their own items at their separate tables. Each family will be collecting and keeping their own proceeds. We only ask that you donate 10% of your profits or a maximum of \$20 to the MUMC Missions Fund. Your items must be removed after 1pm. It is also possible to donate items to the missions' table, but any items not sold from this table will be taken to Goodwill at the end of the day. Please contact Linda Johansen if interested.

## MUMC 24/7 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.



### Most useful food pantry donations:

Mac and cheese (**not a popular item and we currently have plenty**)

Canned vegetables (**green beans are not a popular item and we currently have plenty**)

Boxed milk or Powdered milk

Cereal/Instant Oatmeal

Pasta sauce and pasta

Soups/beef stew

Canned fruits

Tuna/salmon

Canned meats/chicken, beef, spam

Rice/rice cups

Beans/black, red, navy, baked

Fresh produce/potatoes, squash, apples, oranges

Peanut butter/Jelly

Pancake mix/syrup

Coffee/Tea/Hot Chocolate

Oil (vegetable, canola, olive)

Salt & Pepper

Sugar/Flour

Cake & Cookie mixes/frosting

Dish detergent

Personal hygiene products

### Easy open (no can opener required) items:

Fruit cups/Pudding cups

Tuna in a pouch

Single serve soups & pastas

Protein bars

Time Again for our  
**“BACK TO  
SCHOOL”  
SUPPLIES**  
MUMC Mission Project !  
(😊)



Please Consider Contributing To Our Annual School Supplies Drive for DCF Children.

SignUp Genius is available on our MUMC Website. Thank You all in advance as you generously consider to “Give to Children in Need” at the beginning of the School Year. We have been assigned 10 students to provide backpacks filled with supplies for Pre-School to 8<sup>th</sup> Grade.

Please sign up and bring the items to the back of the church or into the office before **Sunday, August 17<sup>th</sup>**. We will be putting the backpacks together with all the supplies before they will be picked up by their social worker before school starts.

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## WELCOME NEW TREASURER

Linda Kime, SPR



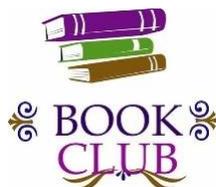
We are happy to announce that SPR committee has found MUMC a new Treasurer to take over when David, Laura and Daniel Gorden move to Wisconsin leaving August 20th.

Please welcome William Campbell, long time MUMC member as our new Treasurer.

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## GORDEN SENDOFF

Also please join us for refreshments 10:30am Sunday August 17th for a farewell send off and appreciation of the Gordens’ tremendous commitment to our church and many programs.



## THE OTHER GOOD BOOK GROUP

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

It's time for our annual "Reader's Choice" meeting! Pick your own title (or two) from any genre to read this month and then join us on **Sunday, August 17th at 7pm in Fellowship Hall** to share your thoughts about your choice(s). We will also take this opportunity to put together our reading calendar for the coming year, so bring your reading suggestions along as well, either titles you've enjoyed or those you would like to read. We hope to see you in person but will run Zoom for those who are unable to join us at the church.

You don't have to be a regular participant in the book group to join us at this meeting. We welcome all who are interested in sharing and/or hearing about books! For those looking to escape the heat, there will be snacks...

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## THURSDAY LUNCH BUNCH



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

Although we seem to have a core group, our numbers change from week to week. We share stories, memories and even discuss current affairs a bit. We share happy news and concerns.

# CHURCH FAMILY NEWS....

## WELCOME!!!

McKenna Jane Martin  
Born 5/12. 7lb 21"  
Newborn to Zack &  
Kristine Martin  
Sister to Tessa & Cahlen

Grand Daughter to Denise  
& Brian Martin - Maureen  
& John Fillian



## 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

Bob E.  
Farmington Station  
111 Scott Swamp Rd.  
Room 251  
Farmington, CT  
06032

Adva V.  
10 Chelsea Place  
Avon, CT 06001

## COUCH'S NEW ADDRESS!!!

Please note new address for Roger and Joan Couch.

509 Middle Road, Apt. 210  
Farmington, CT 06032

Wishing them comfort, safety and happiness in their new home!!!

## AUGUST BIRTHDAYS



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

Jake Sweet	Emily Brinn
Roger Couch	Julie (Dario) Zehren
Hope Storrs	Bruce Corbett
Joe Fillian	Michael Gorden
Wesley Stevens	Chris Calandriello
Rick Mellon	



## PASSING OF BILL REBILLARD'S FATHER

Our sexton Bill Rebillard's father, William R. Rebillard, passed away on Friday, July 18.

Please keep Bill and his family in your prayers at this difficult time.

Gravesite services including military honors will be held on Monday, August 14, at 11 am at Greenwood Cemetery on Lovely Street in Avon.

## AUGUST ANNIVERSARIES

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

Michael & Jennifer (Smagin) Gorden  
Brian and Kay Hunter

If you would like your special day(s) added to newsletter and/or bulletin insert, please notify the church office at [avonmumc@gmail.com](mailto:avonmumc@gmail.com)



Come— invite your friends, family and neighbors to join you for a fun afternoon of sheep related games and crafts and ice cream sundaes on the grounds of MUMC.

Be prepared for a visit from a “special” shepherd!!! This is a great opportunity to invite all to share in the community we have at MUMC.

Certainly we are looking for folks to head up or volunteer for the many aspects of this event including: publicity, ice cream prep and serving, baking cupcakes - overseeing cupcake decorating, crafts, registration and check in, and of course, set up and breakdown. As always, many hands make light work. Look for the signup genius for your opportunity to volunteer!!!

Please won't you come on board to make this a special afternoon for MUMCers and our friends and neighbors of our communities.

Flyers and cards will be available for distribution – please help us spread the word.

## THIRD FRIDAY POT LUCK SUPPER

Friday, August 15 – 5:30 pm



Grab a favorite dish to share and join us for a casual gathering to share a meal, fellowship, conversation and friendship. Easy peasy!!



Women of Memorial – Women of Faith and Fun – please join us for a morning of preparation for our first “His” Sheep Ice Cream Social which will also provide a variety of crafts and games for all ages. While assisting with this prep, all will have the opportunity to enjoy fellowship and conversation.

We'll conclude with a lunch at noon, as well as discuss and plan events for the coming months. Bring your ideas, suggestions! Please let Hyeonjin Kim know if you will be joining us.

## EXPLORE MEMBERSHIP DINNER!!

For many of you who are already part of the MUMC family but also might want to officially join the church! We are inviting you to a fun dinner to have fellowship with others who became MUMC members and can share reasons and joys for this decision! Also our pastor Sungmu will explain the Membership ritual during worship and meaning of the vows taken, and answer any questions you have. **Dinner will be 5:30pm Sunday September 21st.** Probably done by 6:45 pm. Please look for your invitations coming in the mail!



-Linda Kime, Membership chair

## FELLOWSHIP HOUR

Linda Kime

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



Committees have done a stellar job these last 10 months. Thank you to all volunteers who have contributed to this time we so enjoy together and the treats!

## SUMMER REFRESHMENTS!

For one service at 9:30 am. July and August do Summer we go to not have committees covering refreshments so we **need volunteers** to sign up for **August 10, 17, 24, 31**. That's 4 more opportunities to provide those days!! Pair up and that's 9 lucky folks. A sign-up sheet will be in back of sanctuary and then in Fellowship hall while we're socializing.

**Let's not find ourselves** on one of these Sunday mornings **without having a Fellowship Hour!!!**

Thanks in advance for volunteering!!!



## FROM YOUR FINANCIAL SECRETARY

I have been thinking about ways I could send quarterly reports to you without having to print and mail them. I have an

email address for most of you and wonder if you are receptive to receiving your report in that format? If you do NOT want to receive the information electronically please let me know at my email or telephone. Of course, end of year reports will be prepared in hard copy for your files. Thank you for considering this option.

Diane Hornaday, Financial Secretary  
[dhornaday@sbcglobal.net](mailto:dhornaday@sbcglobal.net) 860-673-9634



## MUMC MEMORIAL GARDEN

July 2025 Update

The Committee has scheduled a summer irrigation and maintenance inspection with Grasshelper, to be completed in late July, and the company will be back again in October to close off the system for the winter. The annuals and roses continue to blossom through a period of hot sun and dryness during July, with weeds of all types also needing weekly attention. Poison ivy has been sprayed, and the large overgrown hemlock has been cut back to open up the north side of the Garden. Our arborist completed scheduled pruning in late June of the three trees in the center circle area, as well as those outside the Garden area that line the south driveway from West Avon Road all the way down to the corner. Continuing from July to September, Gardeners are taking responsibility singly or in pairs, along with the occasional volunteer from congregation, for the weekly weeding, spraying, deadheading, and other routine maintenance.

A recent memorial service was held on July 21<sup>st</sup> for beloved longtime member Paul Anderson, and his nameplate will be installed on the north-facing monument in the Garden next to that of his beloved wife Jean. Paul, Jean, Ruthellen, Bobbie, and Rev. Dave will all be honored along with dozens of other departed members at a *Service of Remembrance* in the Garden in September, in conjunction with a special Sunday service in the Sanctuary that same morning.



## 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, especially our little ones.

## GIRL SCOUT COOKIE DONATION

When it comes time for Girl Scout Cookie sales, buyers are offered the opportunity to purchase cookies that will be donated to those who may otherwise not get to enjoy this annual tradition.

This year Girl Scout Troop 66304 who meets at Memorial on Thursday nights chose MUMC's 24/7 Food Pantry to be the recipient of these cookies. Three cases of cookies were delivered and made available to those visiting the pantry.

Thank you girls for choosing to support our pantry and those of our community who we are sure enjoyed this special treat.



Online Directory updates are continual as new information is gathered. Please alert of phone preferences or email addresses. Always a need for new photo of families whose children are grown so much since their directory photo. They should be sent to Linda Kime by text 860-305-0526 or email [lmk318@aol.com](mailto:lmk318@aol.com)



## BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP VISION, PURPOSE

Allen Nixon

Contact via [the online form](#)

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.

We will not be meeting in August, and will **resume** our meetings starting **September 17<sup>th</sup>** .

# TALCOTT MOUNTAIN CELEBRATE AMERICA! CONCERT



Sixteen members and friends from MUMC gathered on 4<sup>th</sup> of July to enjoy the annual Independence Day concert of the Hartford Symphony. For the first time we opted for reserving tables rather than lawn seating and I believe the second row tables were enjoyed by all. The evening included a special appearance by Livingston Taylor (talented brother of James Taylor). Great evening of great music and fellowship!!! Thank you, Linda Kime, for making arrangements.



## ***DATES TO REMEMBER!!!***

Day	Date	Time	Pg.	Event
Fri	8/1	12 pm	2	First Friday Lunch
Sat	8/2	9:30 am	3	Winsted Meal Prep
Sun	8/3	10:30 am	3	LGBTQ Presentation
Mon-Fri	8/11-15	9 am-12:15 pm	4	Vacation Bible Camp – “Road Trip”
Fri	8/15	5:30 pm	6	Third Friday Pot Luck Supper
Sun	8/17	10:30 am	4	Gordens Sendoff
Sun	8/17	7 pm	4	Other Good Book Club
Sat.	8/23	10 am	6	“His” Sheep Prep – Women of Faith and Fun
Sat.	8/6	2-3:30 pm	6	“His” Sheep Ice Cream Social, crafts and games
Sun.	9/21	5:30 pm	6	Explore Membership Dinner

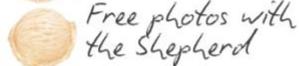
*PLEASE VISIT OUR WEBSITE TO FIND OUR LATEST HAPPENINGS  
AND UP TO DATE INFORMATION*

***avonmumc.org***

HIS SHEEP

# Ice Cream Social

*free entry*



**SATURDAY  
SEPT. 06**

**AT MEMORIAL UMC, AVON, CT**

**2:00 - 3:30 PM**

(Rain Date: Sept. 07)

**Get ready to chill out with us at our Ice Cream Social!**

**MORE INFO @ AVONMUMC.ORG**

**FUN FOR EVERYONE!  
ALL AGES WELCOME!**



**\*Support Our Community:** We accept free-will donations of non-perishable food items for MUMC's 24/7 Food Pantry that serves our community. Thank you for your generosity.

MEMORIAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, 867 WEST AVON ROAD, AVON, CT | 860.673.2111

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