



East Avenue United Methodist Church
Norwalk, Connecticut

EAUMC EVENTS

Newsletter

Volume 012 Issue 09

September 2015



PASTOR'S PAGE

Hello Friends,

All good things must come to an end, including the summer of 2015. But what a great summer it has been. I echo my words from last month, that it has been a joy worshipping with Norwalk UMC in their fellowship hall. Many thanks to them for their hospitality and love and to all of you who made the LONG trek to 718 West Avenue-wink, wink-worship would have been incomplete without you.

In the past few months there has been much conversation about the future of Methodism in Norwalk. The pastors and leaders of East Avenue and Norwalk have met with our District Superintendent, Betsy Ott, and shared our concerns and hopes for revitalization. After returning from the meeting our trustees voted to recommend merger with Norwalk UMC. Talks between the two churches, Betsy and Derrick Lewis-Noble, Director of Congregational Development and Revitalization, will continue as we discern together God's plan for us.

I also have the joy of announcing that a very generous monetary gift was donated to the church from the family of Grace Clark in her memory. I know that I spoke for everyone when I expressed my heartfelt gratitude to Fran Clark, Tom and Carol Post and Janice Gawlik for their thoughtfulness to the church that Grace dedicated so much to in her lifetime.

Exciting times are upon us. Know that we do not face them as ones without hope but as those with the promise that our Lord and savior, Jesus Christ goes both with us and before us.

Glory to God in the Highest,

RH

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Office Hours

Tuesday - Thursday - 2:15pm - 5:15pm

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WORSHIP

We have returned “home” for worship as of September 6. The experience of being together with Norwalk UMC was a taste of worship in a larger congregation. The blending of our Praise Band with NUMC was joyous! The preaching of Randy and Ronell was uplifting.

Now our smaller family is home and we hope your presence will continue to enrich our lives as we sing, pray, learn and grow together on our Christian journey.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION UPDATE

Christian Education Update:

The children of EAUMC had a great time at Vacation Bible School with the children from NUMC. We had just over 2 dozen kids participate in August. They enjoyed listening to Pastor Howard's morning worship sessions and had some great insights and questions for her.

Now that VBS is over, that means summer is almost over and it's time to go back to school; and Back to School means it's time to resume Sunday School! Children's Christian Education class will meet on Sunday mornings, before service, at 9 a.m. starting Sept 20. We are looking for teachers to help us with classes, so if you are interested, please let Amy or Megan know. We will soon put together a meeting to renew our Safe Sanctuary Certification. This is required for all adults who wish to work with the children of the church.

Look for our boys to resume their duties as Bible Bearer this fall as well.

The Sunday morning Bible Study for adults continues at 9 a.m. in the chapel.

Peace in Christ

Amy Silvester & Megan Krois

Co-Chairs, Children Christian Education

Youth Christian Education Co-chairs

BIBLE STUDY AND PRAYER

Wednesday, September 23 the church family is again invited to participate in Bible Study and Prayer. This weekly program was on summer leave, but it is time once more to reflect together on God's Word and join in prayer for the church family and the needs of the world. Plan to participate in either time - the content will be the same, and the discussion lively.

SUMMER REFLECTION OF YOUR LAY LEADER

It is not unusual for us to worship together with the folks from Norwalk United Methodist Church. We have done that occasionally through the years. What was unusual this summer was that it was not more of the same *Every Sunday* in July and August we worshipped and enjoyed fellowship after worship together. We really began to get to know each other!

It is not unusual for us to have occasional conversation about what United Methodist presence in Norwalk should look like. What was unusual this summer was that our District Superintendent asked some of the leadership to engage in conversation with each other in a more intentional manner. And she joined us! Where is God leading us? We are still working on that one. We do know that if we do it together, perhaps it can be that BIG mission that Ronell has challenged to find.

The Book of Discipline in ¶2527 indicates that trustees are “vested with authority and power in matters related to the real and personal property of the local church”, and the trustees of both congregations take that seriously. This summer they have talked and prayed together about the responsible use of United Methodist assets in Norwalk. This has led them to recommend that the two congregations merge into one United Methodist Church in the city. A BIG first step in helping us discern our BIG mission!

It can't and it won't happen overnight. It calls for more and deeper prayer and conversation together in each congregation and together. It is exciting, it is scary because it means change, it is challenging us to rely as never before on God's leading us.

No, this summer was not *déjà vu*. This summer we began to sense that we are called to dare to follow God's leading. We are called to pray (and sing) the words of Psalm 5:8: “Lead me, Lord, lead me in thy righteousness, make thy way plain before my face” and then follow wherever that leads us.

Joyce Hill

SEASONED CITIZENS

The next meeting of the Seasoned Citizens will be held at noon on Thursday September 17, 2015. Joyce Hill will share her reflections on the renewal of diplomatic relationships with Cuba. She lived in Cuba between 1952 and 1960 and was there when diplomatic relationships were severed and the US flag taken down. She returned to Cuba several times between 1969 and 1995 and has followed with interest the relationships between the US and Cuba since that time.

Bring your friends and a dish to share.

CROP WALK AND ROCK

The CROP Hunger Walk (AND Rock) is scheduled for September 20! If you can't walk, have you considered rocking? Several folks will be participating in the walk by rocking on our front porch! For others, it will be an easy walk from our church to the Norwalk Green and back!! Gather at the church at 2 p.m. Step off time is 2:30.



Support them by making a pledge for their participation. Val Trowbridge is the contact person.

MISSION

Hello to the East Avenue United Methodist Church family from the Mission Committee.

Fall is just around the corner and the Mission team is ready to reinvigorate the mission efforts of EAUMC! Our next meeting will be Tuesday, October 6th at 7 pm. If you are interested in working with the Mission team; feel free to come to the meeting.

Thank you for contributing to the Milk Bottle Ministry. Our milk bottle took a little vacation in August, but it will be back in September! We hope to be able to continue to deliver 5 gallons of milk to the Open Door Shelter every week, so please continue to remember the milk bottle each Sunday. Thank you!

Please continue to bring in bottles and cans, we will redeem the cans and use the money for our mission work.

With the Love of Christ,

Amy Silvester and Scott Trowbridge I.

Mission Co-Chairs

March / April Perfect Attendance

Stanley, Christina, Adaline, Mom / March	Gail Kantzas / April	Daniel Silvester / March, April
Fred Anderson / March	Gavin Kantzas / April	Matthew Silvester / March, April
Sara Bender / April	Megan Kroise / March	Ed Sisson / March, April
Alan Carpenter / March, April	Alex Kroise / March	Ed Street / March*
Marge Carpenter / March, April	Abbey Kroise / March	Arlene Trowbridge / March, April
Jackie Dayton / April	Jackie Lubell / April	Andy Trowbridge / April
Don Finch / April	Cheryl Mehlee / April	Scott Trowbridge / April
Wendy Finch / April	Allie Oravez / April,	Diane Trowbridge / April
Audrey Garrish / March, April	Vinny Pepe / March, April	Wayne Trowbridge / March, April
Marcia Hegeman / April	Carol Pepe / April	Valerie Trowbridge / April
Joyce Hill / March, April	Jay Silvester / March, April	Lillian Webb / April
Pastor Ronell Howard / March	Amy Silvester / March, April	Jim Wilson / April
		Joy (pianist) / April

(*Attended a service elsewhere) **Average attendance NA**

UNITED METHODIST MEN

It has been a quiet summer and once the Oyster Festival is over, we will be back on a regular schedule. The second Sunday of the month we gather for breakfast at 8 a.m. Plan to join us on October 11.

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

Activities will renew in October, beginning with the District meeting in Stamford, Saturday October 3. - car pooling will be available – and the UMW Annual Meeting on October 24 t Christ Church in Manhattan. More specific details will be forthcoming when we get them.

We will be having a UMW joint gathering at NUMC on Sunday, October 11th with a presentation by Joyce Hill on Mission in Latin America.

September 2015

Have an event you want on the Church Calendar? Be sure to let us know.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6 9am Adult bible study/ Sunday School 10am Worship	7	8	9 5pm at the Church, Oyster Festival Setup	10 7:30 Music Rehearsal	11 9/11-13 Oyster Festival	12
13 9am Adult bible study/ Sunday School 10am Worship	14	15	16 6pm Trustees	17 Noon Seasoned Citizens 7:30 Music Rehearsal	18	19
20 9am Sunday School 9am Adult bible study/ Sunday School 10am Worship	21	22	23 Noon/6pm Bible Study & Prayer	24 7:30 Music Rehearsal	25 7pm Karaoke Night	26
27 9am Sunday School 9am Adult bible study/ Sunday School 10am Worship	28	29	30 Noon/6pm Bible Study & Prayer			

September Birthdays



- 2 Ray Rumer
- 2 Jenn Trowbridge
- 7 James Phelan
- 21 Jay Silvester
- 24 Marcia Hegeman
- 26 Gail Kantzas
- 26 Amy Silvester
- 26 Matthew Silvester
- 27 Jordan McGarty
- 20 Matthew Blackman

Happy Anniversary!!



Greeters

TBA

Lectors



- 6 Andy Trowbridge
- 13 Joyce Hill
- 20 Allan Trowbridge
- 27 Scott Trowbridge II

AS A CHURCH FAMILY THAT BELIEVES IN THE POWER OF PRAYER, LET US REMEMBER TO PRAY FOR:

Barbara Barnes

George Bolton

Georgianna Bolton

Family of Bertha Brown

David Brown

Alice Buono

Bob Byrne

Dick Carricato

Marge Carpenter

Mary Jane Godfrey

Evelyn Hodge

Pastor Ronell Howard

Gail Kantzas

Family of James Kenneday

Lorie Kristof

Susan Lane

Bishop Jane Allen Middleton

Barry McConway (Don
Finch Brother-in-law)

Dave Nelson

Allie Oravez

Rev. Betsy Ott

Parker Prout

Peggy Raymond

Randy Romano

Bob Stumpf

Allan Trowbridge

Chris Trowbridge

Jenn Trowbridge

Scott Trowbridge I

Amanda Urban

Lillian Webb

Bob and Dora White

The Care Givers in our Church
Family*Prayer:*

*Healing God, send your wholeness.
Loving Christ, send your strength,
Holy Spirit, send your comforting presence,
To all who hurt, to all who struggle, to all
who mourn.
Amen. (Anon.)*

For Those Serving in the Military

Adam Alexander

Andres Botttelli

John C. Drabeck

Jim Hyman

Anthony Licorish

Benjamin Trowbridge

**For all who serve to bring peace to
our world**

Our World

**For peace in areas of conflict, especially the
Middle East**

**For Children on our Borders seeking ref-
uge**

**For victims of natural disasters: floods,
earthquakes, severe weather**

**For victims of violence in our streets and in
our world**

For leaders of the Church

For world leaders





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The 2015 Oyster Festival is here and we Hope You Are Too

It's here once again, the Oyster Festival and "Ol' Funnel Cake" is ready to set sail once again hopefully on calm seas and to huge and hungry crowds 9/11-13. We will be setting up on Wednesday 9/9 meeting at the church at 5pm, then over to the field. We have tried this year to get as much ready in advance as possible in the hopes of making the setup as quick and painless as possible but we still need all the help we can muster. If we get everything done then we will next meet on Friday Evening for our launch at 6pm. The questions of "why" have been answered and now is the time for action. We are looking forward to a successful year in raising funds for our beloved church and bringing our message of Christian Fellowship to the visitors of this year's Festival. If you haven't already signed up please see Jay Silvester and let him know the best times for you to join us. We need everyone's help and we need to all be a part of this event in the life of OUR Church.

