

December

2019

Steeple Tidings

Sharing God's love with each other and the world

SUNDAY SCHEDULE

**Worship with us Sundays
at 10 AM, Sunday School
December 1 & 15 at 10am
All are Welcome!!**

Scripture Reading

For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. (Isaiah 9:6)

Quick News and Events

December 1—Cookie Bake Day, right after church join in the fun lets bake for cookie walk!

December 4—Healing Service,
7pm in the Sanctuary

December 7&8—ECC Concert

December 14— Cookie Walk, Christmas Tea
and Grandmas Attic

December 15—Pancake Breakfast, 8:30am—
9:53, come and eat then fgo to church and nap!

December 24—Evergreen Service, Parkway Service

January 11—HUMC2025, pg. 9

**For Complete Calendar go to
humcEnfield.org**

Grandma's Attic needs your gently used Christmas Items by December 9th to set for Christmas Tea/Cookie/Attic Day. We are also looking for 10 plug in window candles for the Christmas decorating.

Some Thoughts from Me —Rev. David Williams



From time to time I receive special e-mails from our Annual Conference. Some of these are from the Bishop, some are from our District Superintendent. Others originate with one of the program agencies that are so important to our Conference. One recently crossed my desk that got my attention, and I want to share it with you.

It came from the Committee on Finance and Administration and challenged people to make a difference by foregoing one cup of coffee every day for the month of December. The challenge went like this. Give up one cup of coffee every day for the month and put the money you would have spent on that cup aside. At the end of the month put that money in the plate to help pay our Mission Shares. Their estimate was that each cup of coffee was worth \$3, which I thought was a little high. After all, you can get decent coffee at McDonalds for a buck. If we split the difference and set aside \$2 each day, that would amount to \$60 for the month of December. If we could get 50 persons to take this challenge, that would amount to \$3,000 towards Mission Shares.

This is an important challenge, because we, as a congregation, are painfully behind on our Mission Shares giving. And Mission Shares are so vital to our denomination and our Annual Conference. Mission Shares funds church camps, educational opportunities,

new church starts, and mission programs such as Salem Economic Ministries. Mission Shares help churches that are struggling to pay their pastor and keep their doors open. Mission Shares reach out beyond our borders to make a difference around the globe. As I said, it's an important challenge.

Now I never like to put out a challenge like this and not participate myself. I don't drink coffee, so this challenge does not work for me. But I am looking into where I do spend my money so that I might also find a way to set aside \$2 each day. Advent and Christmas are truly the season for giving. I hope you will join in the holiday spirit by giving up that one cup of coffee and making a difference.

God bless,

Dave

Entirely (Pledge) Envelopes

As we approach a new year, please note some changes being made regarding the weekly collection envelopes. Beginning next 2020 our envelope numbers will only go up to #150. Those of you who have had higher numbers will be reassigned a number within that range. We are sorry for any inconvenience this may pose but it is a good decision for the church for two reasons: 1. It is a substantial savings monetarily. 2. It lessens our ecological footprint by having less to recycle. New envelopes will be available in December.

When you use your envelope please indicate you monetary distribution in the spaces provided. Also include your name. **Many of you have indicated your wishes on your pledge form. You should know that the counters only have the envelopes to work with. What is written there is the only information the counters have; it is also the only information that the financial secretary has been recording the individual accounts.**

Current Expenses \$ 25 Renovation \$ 5 Elevator \$ 50

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Tithing Families
Are
Happy Families

HAZARDVILLE
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
Enfield, Connecticut

BRING THE TITHE
YOU'LL BE GLAD YOU DID

Name Jane Smith

Please indicate your envelope number on your check; if cash, write CASH on the envelope.

If you send in your pledge without the church envelope, please be sure you indicate where you would like the funds recorded. If possible, use the church envelopes to simplify it for you and the church personnel.

There is a dedicated group of church members who record the envelope information on a weekly basis. Please to all that you can to ease their job. Also, if you are turning your envelop at church please do not seal or tape it.

Please note, the envelopes are saved for a number of years as part of the financial records. Having complete information is important for you personally and for the church. HUMC thanks you for your contributions. We want to sure your wishes are met and recorded properly.

Hold the Date!

What date? January 11, 2020

What? HUMC2025

Where? The Betty Wightman room.

Why? A time of exploration, dreaming, and planning to help us understand where God is leading us. Our focus will be on what we, as a church, look like (or should look like) in 2025.

Who? YOU!

A Very Special Kids' Time

Hey kids! How would you like everyone to know what a special Christmas you had? Well, here's your chance. On Sunday, Dec. 29, bring your favorite gift that you received to church with you. You'll have a chance to show and tell about it during the Kids' Time with Rev. Dave. We'll have a lot of fun and you'll have a chance to share your excitement. One catch, though—it can't be breathing.



Wednesday Evening Healing Services

Our next Wednesday evening Service of Divine Healing will be held on Wednesday, December 4, at 7 p.m. in the sanctuary. This 30-45 minute service is patterned after the Taizé service of quiet reflection, with simple chants, scripture, prayer, and anointing with oil. We also invite you to come to any one of the other Wednesday evening prayer meetings which are held each week at 7. These are shorter, more informal times of prayer. If you are feeling run down, scared, lonely, depressed, hurting, struggling, or simply lost, we invite you to come for this very special service where we open ourselves up to the healing power of God.

Sermon Series

During a time of great upheaval and uncertainty the prophet Isaiah dared to look ahead to a time when God would step in and change the face of history. While the birth of Jesus Christ was more than even he saw, he still dared to look into the darkness around him and dream. Join Rev. Dave on Sundays as we walk through Advent with this mighty prophet, and like him, dare "To Dream the Impossible Dream."

Dec. 1 – To Dream of Hope

Dec. 8 – To Dream of Peace

Dec. 15 – To Dream of Joy

Dec. 22 – Our annual Christmas pageant, presented by our Sunday School class.



"Begin the Christmas season with some beautiful music "

The Enfield Community Chorus presents its 43rd annual holiday concert on Saturday, December 7 and Sunday, December 8 here in our sanctuary. Both concerts will begin promptly at 3:00 p.m. The first half will feature fun tunes such as "Jingle Bells, Candy Covered Gingerbread House, and O Holy

Night" and others. The second half will be "A Noel Celebration" " with all the traditional carols, as well as costumed actors portraying people from Jesus' time. Our own Julie LaRocca directs, accompanied by the fantastic Jonathan O'Brien. A reception in Fellowship Hall will follow the concert with refreshments and a chance to socialize. No tickets or reservations are needed, but donations will be gratefully accepted at the concert. Don't miss this tuneful event.



Living Nativity:

This year it is again a spectacular, not to be missed, incredible feat! If you would like to be an actor in the Nativity please sign up! If you own an animal (sheep, goat, camel, yak, alpaca, bunny) They are needed as well! Just call the church office to arrange!



Life pushing in? Work a hassle? Fears abound around family, finances, health? Why not spend a few moments with God. Join us Wednesday evenings

at 7 p.m. in the sanctuary for a short, very informal time of prayer. This half-hour time together allows us to reconnect with one another, and, more importantly, to reconnect with God. Come spend some time in the arms of our Savior. You will be glad you did.

REVERSE ADVENT CALENDAR

EACH DAY ADD AN ITEM TO A BOX.
ON CHRISTMAS EVE DONATE THE CONTENTS TO A
FOOD BANK.

- December 1 - box of cereal
- December 2 - peanut butter
- December 3 - stuffing mix
- December 4 - boxed potatoes
- December 5 - macaroni and cheese
- December 6 - canned fruit
- December 7 - canned tomatoes
- December 8 - canned tuna
- December 9 - dessert mix
- December 10 - jar of applesauce
- December 11 - canned sweet potatoes
- December 12 - cranberry sauce
- December 13 - canned beans
- December 14 - box of crackers
- December 15 - package of rice
- December 16 - package of oatmeal
- December 17 - package pasta
- December 18 - spaghetti sauce
- December 19 - chicken noodle soup
- December 20 - tomato soup
- December 21 - can corn
- December 22 - can mixed vegetables
- December 23 - can carrots
- December 24 - can green beans

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Dec. 2—Phyllis Phelan

Dec. 3—Jim LaMondia

Dec. 5— Barbara Sackett

Dec. 15— Edward Locke



Rick Gorman will be inducted into the Veterans Hall of Fame on December 6, 2019 at the State Capital!

Rick is being honored for his service in the US Navy & Navy Reserves, 52 years of service to the Boy Scouts, and service to the American Legion.

Rick was nominated by a fellow veteran earlier this year for this honor. What a wonderful honor for a great man!!!!



Troop 108 – December 2019
Steeple Tidings – by Scott Vujs,
a.k.a. “the Old Goat”



Merry Christmas to HUMC from Troop 108!

It seems as I get older the years are just flying by! This year, 2019, was no exception. It's almost in the history books and the holidays are fast approaching. This year just seemed to fly by with all the activities, meetings, campouts, community service projects, new faces, and Yawgoog summer camp that the scouts and leaders participated in! Troop 108 is in full throttle planning for more adventures for 2020 with our scouts and their leaders.

November's campout was at Yawgoog Scout Reservation in Rockville, Rhode Island. This is the camp we attend our week long summer camp at for the last 34 years. Ten scouts and 7 leaders, along with 5 Webelos and their parents from Pack 391 spent a weekend participating in many outdoor scout skills which included first aid, lashings & knot tying, fire building using “Fritos” (yes the snack food Fritos Corn Chips), hand sanitizer and pine cones, and a enjoyed a complete Thanksgiving Meal in the field. The Boy Scouts worked with the Webelos Scouts to finish up some requirements for their Arrow of Light award – the highest award a Webelos Scout can earn and the only Cub Scout award that can be worn on their Boy Scout uniform. Several scouts also completed requirements for Rank Advancement and Merit Badges that can only be accomplished outdoors. New friendships were established that hopefully will last a lifetime.

On Sunday October 26, 2019 Troop 108 and Pack 391 placed 1600+ US Flags on the graves of veterans in St. Patrick's Cemetery. Troop 108 has a deep commitment to honor our veterans and we welcome opportunities to assist in these types of events. A flag was also placed on the grave of William Munsell, Sr., as the troop remembers Mr. Munsell not only for his 73 years of service to Scouting and a lifetime member of the HUMC, but as one of the original 14 founding members of Troop 108 in 1938 and his wartime service during WWII and Korea.

And speaking of 1938, this coming year of 2020 will see Troop 108 celebrate 82 years of continuous operations! On January 12, 2020 we will celebrate our 82nd year of Chartered Membership with the Boy Scouts and also our 82nd year of proud sponsorship by the HUMC! Part of that milestone is the annual Scout Sunday Mass and Banquet which is scheduled for January 12, 2020.

December's campout will be our traditional Video Games overnigher and Wreaths Across America Ceremony. Also an after-hours activity promoting team building will be held. This campout rewards the scouts for their hard work on Scouting Skills throughout the year. The troop invites the HUMC Families to join us on Saturday December 14, 2019 for the wreath laying ceremonies at St. Patrick's Cemetery on Enfield Street on the graves of our deceased Veterans. In addition a Christmas Wreath will be placed on the grave of Bill Munsell at the Enfield Street Cemetery following the ceremonies at St. Patrick's. Bill was a veteran whose wartime service spanned WW II and Korea. Troop 108 and the Tanguay – McGill American Legion Post 80 also place a Christmas Wreath on the graves of the namesakes of Post 80.

The troop is looking forward to participating in the HUMC annual Cookie Walk on Saturday December 14, 2019. This is a great fundraiser for the HUMC and our troop eagerly looks forward to participating and enjoying the many

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Thursday Advent Opportunities

As we have done in the past, this year Hazardville United Methodist Church, d the United Methodist Church of Enfield, and the United Methodist churches of East Windsor and Windsorville are joining together for an Advent Bible Study each Thursday evening. We will gather at 6:00 p.m. for a soup supper, and then, at 6:30 move into our Bible Study. Our study this year is entitled "Christmas Accounts in the Four Gospels." The schedule for these studies is:

December 5 - Christmas at Mark's House, led by Rev. Deranian. This study will be held at UMC-Enfield, 41 Brainard Road.

December 12 - Christmas at Matthew's House, led by Brigita Naegeli. This study will be held at Hazardville UMC, 330 Hazard Avenue.

December 19 - Christmas at Luke's House (with a little John thrown in) led by Rev. Aiello at UMC-Enfield, 41 Brainard Road.

Everyone is invited, and we hope to see you there.

Christmas Eve

Christmas Eve is almost here, and once again there will be two opportunities for us to worship and celebrate. This year we will enjoy "A Visit with Ellington the Elf" at both the 7 p.m. and 11 p.m. service. Ellington will share his memories of years past and what they have taught him about the true meaning of the Christmas. As always, both services will include music, scripture and the lighting of candles that reminds us of the infinite love of God the Father. The 11 p.m. will add "A Christmas Carol Communion" to our worship experience. Join us Christmas Eve for a time of celebration, joy, and wonder.

Can I Get An Amen! Or some Turkey....



I love the dinners, sometimes stressful, sometimes painful...but when you all show up it is joy! Thank you again for letting Marc feed you and me assist in the kitchen! If you missed it you now have to wait until January for the next one!

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varieties of cookies offered.

Our final Scout Meeting for 2018 will be on December 18th which is the annual Troop 108 Christmas Party. Scouts and their families will gather to share the joy and fellowship of the evening and the holiday season. The traditional Grab Bag Gift story “Lefty & Righty” will be read again this year. Weekly meetings will start back up for 2020 on Wednesday January 8, 2020.

Troop 108 will once again send holiday cards to our men & women stationed overseas this holiday season. This year will have a special connection to the troop – two of our families have a relative serving overseas during the holiday season with the US Army. We will send these folks a special holiday greeting. In addition, our troop’s goal is to send over 100 Holiday Cards to the men & women serving in our Armed Forces this holiday season. Many will stand watch as we celebrate the many blessings bestowed upon us and our families.

Planning is in full swing towards our 2020 Troop Activities. The Patrol Leader’s Council is busy preparing activities for Wednesday evening meetings, monthly campouts, community service projects, and summer time activities. Some of the next campouts will be to Camp Workcoeman, Moses Scout Reservation, and JN Webster Scout Camps. We are also looking to camp in Rhode Island where the scouts will work on & compete the Rail-roading Merit Badge and camp at the Gettysburg Battlefield in June 2020.

The troop has been actively gearing up for another season of recruiting Webelos Scouts from the Cub Scout Packs in town as well as other young men from our local schools. The Webelos Scouts will be “Crossing Over” into a Boy Scout Troop to continue their Scouting Adventure. As the Marine Corp’s recruiting slogan says “we are looking for a few good men”, so as Troop 108 is always “looking for a few good young men” who would like to become and partake in the adventures of being a Boy Scout. Troop 108 does accept new scouts at any time of the year. If you know of a young man who is at least 11 years old, or completed the 5th grade, or has earned his Arrow of Light, and would like to join Boy Scouts please let us know. Any young man and his family are welcomed to visit the troop on Wednesday evenings during the school/scouting year. For more information please contact myself (Scott Vujs), as Committee Chairman, at Lobster63@cox.net for more information. Greetings from Troop 108 – the oldest continuously operating troop in Enfield for 81 years!

Until the next Steeple Tidings Troop 108 is signaling “All Clear” and signing off.

Troop 108 THANKS the HUMC for its continued support of our troop!





Christmas Tea and Cookie Walk

December 14, 2019

11:00 to 1:00



Remember to invite your friends and neighbors to join us at the 18th annual Christmas Tea and Cookie Walk. You'll be overwhelmed by the variety and amount of Holiday cookies available for purchase at the Cookie Walk. The elegant Tea Luncheon is an opportunity to relax and enjoy delicious finger sandwiches and sweets in community with friends and family. It's a busy time of year, so please come and take a moment for yourself and make it part of your Christmas season tradition.

We will need volunteers to help decorate fellowship hall,(time and day to be determined) and to prepare the kitchen. Also, volunteers are needed on Saturday to help serve our guests and clean up. A signup sheet will be available, any help is greatly appreciated!!!

For the Tea, sandwiches need to be made at the church. Be sure to label with the ingredients especially those that contain any nuts or gluten. Finger sandwiches and sweet treats need to be small as we want to **avoid the need for utensils.**

Cookies for the Cookie Walk can be brought to the Church on Friday the 13th, 10-noon or 3:30-5pm or early Saturday morning. Please mark your cookie containers if they contain nuts or are gluten free.

Questions on the Cookie Walk can be directed to Tracy McDonagh (tracymcdon@cox.net) and questions on the Tea can be directed to Denise Pape (dpape411@cox.net).

Please lend a hand to make our last big fundraiser of the year a success!

Hear my **PRAYER** O Lord

Psalm 86:6

Please keep the following in your prayers

*If you have a name to add or notice a name that is missing
please contact Isobel Skukowski or the church office.*

Illness

Mike Braun,
Diane Chantre,
Mark Chevalier,
Neil Kelley
Beryl Notman,
Mary Lou Sarno,
Peg Steinert,
Ron Uricchio,
Janette Young

Family Illness

The Braun Family
The Kelley Family
The Phelan Family

Safe Travels

Tyler Craven
The Fishers

Shut-Ins

Elsie Andrews
Chick Comparetto
Diane Hocter
Pat Owens
Ann Stanzione

Recovery

Jeannette Burkhardt
Colleen Williams

Prayer Chain:

Rev. Dave—860-749-9595 Isobel Skukowski—860-7497451
Church Office—860-749-7098 Sue Braun—860-749-2234
Linda Borio Nancy Dyer Jane Clark Doris Mack Holly Fisher Mary Baum
Sandy Butcher Vernell Sanford Jessica Duga

Our Entire Church Family



Our month of November has been very busy. We enjoyed an Open House where family and friends could join us in our classrooms. Parents were impressed with our art displays and hearing about what we had studied during the month. We also talked about what we are thankful for and how treating others with kindness is important. Kindness is important to those who receive it as much as it is for those who show it.

With the month of December upon us thoughts of giving to others continue. We will also continue our collection for the Enfield Food Shelf. Each week in December will be designated for specific items. This is one way we can help others in our community.

Our curriculum will center on learning about animals in winter, math activities such as patterning and estimating, reading books and creating our own stories and using various art tools to create seasonal pictures and sculptures. It will be a busy month because it is also the month of our Christmas Concert. Our concert will be December 17th at 11 a.m. in the fellowship hall. All are welcome to join us as we share some of our favorite musical selections!



As always we thank you the members of Hazardville United Methodist for your support, your guidance and your prayers. We hope each of you has a wonderful holiday season with family and friends. May the New Year bring health, happiness, peace and joy!

Merry Christmas

Phyllis

Don't Just go to Church, Be the Church!

Go to the website
www.humcenfield.org
for the calendar!

IN SERVICE IN November

DATE	LITURGIST	NURSERY	GREETERS	COFFEE	USHERS	COUNTERS
Dec. 1	Roberta Bragan Communion Steward: Leslee Young	Ashley Collins Esta Clarke			Walt Skukowski Kathie Kelley Kerry Fracasso Mike Dynia	Diane Joseph Ernie Jensen
Dec. 8	Emily Carson	Daye Guertin Robin Barret			Christian Chlebowski Walt Skukowski Christian Fracasso Kathie Kelley	Holly Fisher Deb Cook
Dec. 15	Phyllis Phelan	Amy Troiano Tracy McDonagh		Pancakes for Breakfast & Cookies for sale	Walt Skukowski Kathie Kelley Kerry Fracasso Judy Locke	Elaine Folkers Isobel Skukowski
Dec. 22	Sunday School	Pageant! Everyone in church we will have fun!			Judy Locke Kathie Kelley Walt Skukowski Christian Fracasso	Diane Joseph Ernie Jensen
Dec. 29					Judy Locke Kathie Kelley Walt Skukowski Christian Chlebowski	Tony Clarke John Fisher