

Steeple Tidings

Sharing God's love with each other and the world

SUNDAY SCHEDULE

**Worship with us Sundays
at 10 AM, Sunday School
January 5 & 19 at 10am
All are Welcome!!**

Scripture Reading

Let us not grow weary in doing what is right, for we will reap at harvest time, if we do not give up. So then, whenever we have an opportunity, let us work for the good of all, and especially for those of the family of faith. (Gal. 6:9-10)

Quick News and Events

January 7—Church Council, 7pm BWR

January 8—Healing Service, 7pm in Sanctuary

January 11—HUMC2025, 9am BWR

January 12— Boy Scout Sunday

January 15—Prayer , 7pm Sanctuary

January 16—Prayer Shawl, Noon in Yates

January 20—Office Closed

January 22—Prayer , 7pm Sanctuary

January 24—Fellowship Dinner, 5pm FH, pg8

January 25—Cluster Meeting, EUMC, 3pm

January 29—Prayer , 7pm Sanctuary

January 30—Bible Study, 2pm, pg5

February 2—Souper Bowl Sunday, FH 11:30

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

Prayer for the Month

Lord, You make all things new You bring hope alive in our hearts And cause our Spirits to be born again. Thank you for this New Year For all the potential it holds. Come and kindle in us A mighty flame So that in our time, many will see the wonders of God And live forever to praise Your glorious name. Amen

Some Thoughts from Me —Rev. David Williams



The plans of the diligent lead surely to abundance, but everyone who is

hasty comes only to want. (Proverbs 21:5)

Every now and then we are given the opportunity to deliberately and consciously shape our future. We have the chance to look into the crystal ball and chart our own course. Every now and then we are given the opportunity to change our lives in powerful ways. We, at Hazardville United Methodist Church are being given such an opportunity.

On Saturday, January 11, we will gather to discern where God is leading us as a congregation. We will explore what our future might look like, and then map out a plan to get there. We are calling it HUMC2025, and it is probably the biggest and most important thing to happen to this church since we installed the elevator. And we need you.

Current trends in terms of church attendance and church influence are depressing. Attendance is falling, not just here at HUMC but across the spectrum of Christian denominations and churches. Part of this is due to the fact that most mainline

denominations are aged, and as such are losing people to death. The other part is that younger folks are not seeing “the church” as being important and so we are not attracting new people to replace those we have lost. As the church diminishes in size it also diminishes in terms of the impact it can and does make on the surrounding community. If we don’t address these trends we face the very real possibility that HUMC will go the way of many other churches—closing in ten years. On the other hand, churches that have recognized these trends and have adjusted their approach, focus, environment, etc. are growing (or at least stemming the tide of shrinking).

This is where HUMC2025 comes in. On January 11 we will meet as a congregation to think and explore what God is doing in our lives. We will look out five years into the future and ask the question, “What will HUMC look like in the year 2025? Who or what is God calling us to be? And what do we need to do to make that vision a reality?” It will be both an exciting and frightening conversation because some of the questions we will need to deal with include looking at what we do now and wondering if we need to do something else? Or, conversely, what is it we are not

doing now that we need to do? As I said, it will be both an exciting and frightening time because we will be freed from the shackles of “We’ve always done it this way before” and “But we’ve never done that before.”

Of course a vision alone does nothing without a plan to make it happen. And so, we hope to come out of this session with concrete action items (that will include the whole church) that will help turn our vision into reality. We may not develop the entire plan at this meeting. We may not even be able to see the entire plan at this meeting. But we can and will come away with a plan that starts us on the path to an exciting transformation.

This is HUMC’s vision. This is HUMC’s plan. This is the HUMC’s future. It involves all of us. The meeting on the 11th will last much of the day. It is a serious time commitment, but it is an important one. It is for all members of HUMC—young and old, able-bodied and not-so-able-bodied, men and women, etc. It is for everyone. It is for you. I hope you will join us for the most important event in our church’s recent history. So come and dream. Come and help us plan. Come. We need you.

Dave

*Thank
You*

We have been blessed to serve this church and this congregation for the past ten and a half years. Throughout that time you have shown us nothing but love and support for which we are grateful. That love and support was evident again this year in the lavish Christmas gift you gave us. We are overwhelmed at your generosity and thank you from the bottom of our hearts. May God continue to bless our ministry together that God’s name may be glorified.

Dave and Colleen

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!

SERMON SERIES:

USING A TRIO OF PARABLES FROM LUKE'S GOSPEL ACCOUNT AND LESSONS HE LEARNED FROM HIS DOG, REV. DAVE EXPLORES THE THE DEPTH AND BREADTH OF GOD'S LOVE FOR US. JOIN US FOR A FUN SERMON SERIES BEGINNING DECEMBER 29.

DEC. 29 – FINDING THE LOST (WHEN GOD LOOKS FOR US, GOD FINDS US)

JAN. 5 – THE SWEETEST WORDS (NO MATTER WHAT WE DID, NO MATTER WHERE WE GO, THE FIRST THREE WORDS GOD SPEAKS TO US ARE ALWAYS THE SAME; THE THREE SWEETEST WORDS IN THE WORLD.)

JAN. 12 – LET'S PARTY (IF GOD HAD A TAIL, IT WOULD BE WAGGING...A LOT)



Wednesday Evening Healing Services

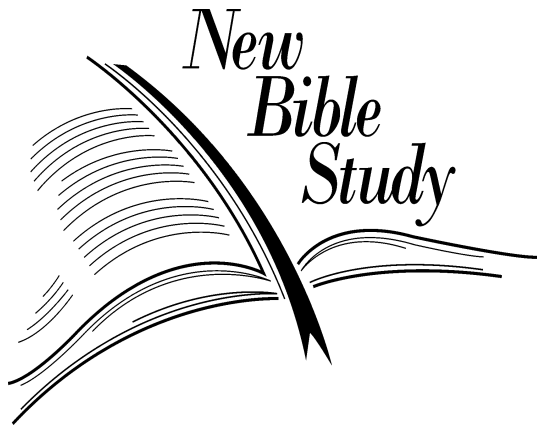
Our next Wednesday evening Service of Divine Healing will be held on Wednesday, January 8, at 7 p.m. in the sanctuary. This 30-45 minute service is patterned after the Taizé service of quiet reflection, with simple chants, scripture, prayer, and anointing with oil. We also invite you to come to any one 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.

THANK YOU



I hope you all know how much I love working for 'My Church' I never expect anything because I am an employee but your generous gift always touches me. The people of this church are family and I am glad that I have all of you.

Love, Sue Braun



Methodism Class

Have you ever wondered just what a Methodist is? What is it we claim to believe as a denomination? Where did we come from? How are we structured and why? And how are we different from other denominations? Beginning Thursday, January 30, at 2 p.m. Rev. Dave will offer a five week course on the history, doctrine, and polity of The United Methodist Church. There is no charge for this class and all are invited. Come and learn our fascinating story and discover just what being a Methodist means.



Thank You

I deeply appreciate all the Christmas cards from my church family. You folks have helped me "weather" the Holidays without my Honey-Boy by my side.

Thank you,
Linda Borio



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.

Thank You

Dear church friends,

We thank you so much for your prayers over the last two months when our family faced (and continues to face) some difficult times. We couldn't have survived this day after day

without your prayers, hugs, and phone calls. As most of you know our son-in-law Jim Bourque suffered four major blockages in his heart and the doctor was amazed that he didn't have a massive attack. We thank God that his attack was mild but such a warning it was. It took a week before surgery in order to stabilize him and a whole lot longer after in cardio recovery. Today he is still recuperating and doing well. We thank Dave for his visit, and the gifts of prayer shawl and many prayers from our church family. In the midst of all of this, Ed has some serious health issues.

Both Ed and I thank you for prayers and offers to help as Ed is being treated at Dana Farber in Boston. He has Adenocarcinoma (lung cancer) and has a long road ahead.

Lastly, we heard today from Tyler (our nuke sailor) that he has received a great many Christmas cards from our church. He was overwhelmed and was so appreciative. It is hard that he cannot be with us this Christmas and apologized that the temp in Hawaii was in the 70s when I told him we are suffering in the deep freeze.

Never before have we been embraced with love and gifts from a caring congregation. We came to this church as a very young family in 1967 and over the years has felt blessed...but nothing like the blessings we have had over these last two months. We thank you from the bottom of our hearts.

May 2020 bring you a year of good health, warm blessings, and the best year yet. We love you all.

Blessings, Ed and Sandra Butcher



What is magnesium?

Magnesium is an important part of the more than 300 enzymes found in your body. These enzymes are involved in processes that

help to regulate many bodily functions, including the production of energy, body protein and muscle contractions. Magnesium also plays a role in maintaining healthy bones and a healthy heart.

Magnesium is a major mineral, meaning higher amounts are needed compared to trace minerals, like zinc or iron. The amount of magnesium required daily depends on a person's age and gender. For example, females who are 19 years and older (and not pregnant) need 310 to 320 milligrams (mg) daily; whereas males of the same age should strive for 400 to 420 mg per day.

It's best to get nutrients, like magnesium, from food sources whenever possible, since they provide other health benefits, too. Many of the foods that are good sources of magnesium are underconsumed by most Americans. Foods rich in magnesium include green leafy vegetables, whole grains, beans and nuts. Milk and yogurt also provide magnesium, as do fortified foods, such as some breakfast cereals.

Because magnesium supplements can interact with some medications, it's important to discuss the need for a dietary supplement with a health care provider before taking one.

People with certain health conditions, like celiac disease or type 2 diabetes, may have lower levels of magnesium in their diets. Working with a registered dietitian nutritionist (RDN) can help with the management of those conditions. Plus, an RDN can develop a personalized eating plan that meets your nutrient needs.

Kathie Kelley, RD, LDN

Troop 108 – January 2020

Steeple Tidings – by The Scouts



The Year in Review

We had a great beginning with our Scout Sunday and a beautiful banquet after! We worked on getting some Eagle Scouts all approved and our scouts helped them finish their projects.

Camping every weekend.

Mothers Day Plant Sale.

Memorial Day Flag placement.

A week at Yawgoog.

Mum Sale in August and September.

Veterans Day Flag placement.

Kerry Fracasso Eagle Ceremony, our 91st Eagle!

We finally let Scott Vujs (Our interim Scout Master become the Head of our BOD). Scout master Howe took over as of January 1.

Frank Troiano became our Treasurer.

Thanks to those who stepped up to replace people who have been dedicated to Troop 108.

We are working toward traveling to Gettysburg in July, Yawgoog in August.

This is all possible because of the Church Charter and support as well as our fundraising efforts!

Happy New Year

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



 **JANUARY**

Birthdays

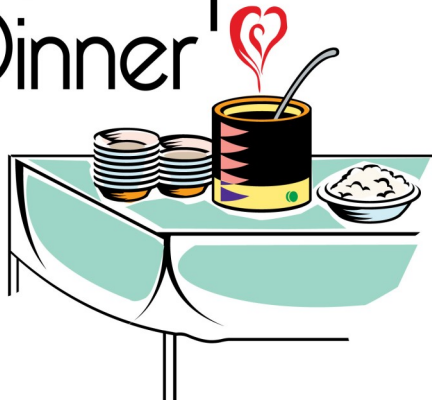
Ava Andrews	January 01
Marie Prior	January 01
Alison Boyd	January 03
Ned Collins	January 04
Ava Capodicasa	January 07
Charles Comparetto	January 08
Nolan Forrest	January 11
Becky Hinckley	January 12
Linda Versteeg	January 16
Vernon Riley	January 19
Janette Young	January 19
Irene Mosher	January 23
Joe Braun	January 29
Doris Mack	January 29

 **FEBRUARY**

Birthdays

Leticia Sim	February 01
Michael Braun	February 02
Frank Ruiz Reyes	February 02
Geraldine Russell	February 03
Donald Niemann	February 04
Betty Mientus	February 10
Stanley Clark	February 11
Marjorie Steinert	February 13
Christian Fracasso	February 15
David Munson	February 19
Charlotte Stenlake	February 19
Kerry Fracasso	February 22
Eleanor Weisel	February 25

**Fellowship
Dinner**



WE have another Dinner coming up fast! January 24th, 5pm till 7pm. Please RSVP to our email: hazardvilleumc@sbcglobal.net or call the office 860-749-7098. We are having roast pork, veggies and potatoes/rice! Our master chef is working on the menu. Sue is working on kitchen help. We will clean and chop veggies on Thursday January 23rd at 6pm. If you can help please show up with a sharp knife!

All are Welcome! Free Will Offering Accepted



Thank you so much for your generous gift and support in my new role!

Marc Guertin

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 Hoctor
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



As we begin the new year I would like to take a moment to look back on the past and thank all those who have helped and supported the school not only this year but past years as well!

Here Wee Grow! began in 1995 with only 13 children total. Today we have sixty

happy, healthy and very energetic preschoolers! (Remember we only have 15 girls of those sixty children!)

I have been fortunate to have staff members who are passionate, patient, creative and dedicated to the education of young children. HWG is truly blessed to have Patti Glaspie, Penny Riley, Mary Jo Gilbert, Mariah Warnock, Amanda O'Leary, Olivia Roberts and Cindy Kissel as teachers and assistants.

As the New Year begins we will continue to work together providing the best possible educational environment possible. Please continue helping us with your prayers and your support.



May you all be blessed with good health and much happiness in the New Year!
Phyllis

Phyllis

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

A Of Thanks

I want to extend my greatest appreciation to the many folds of this church for helping out with the Enfield Community Chorus present their 43rd Christmas concert in December. Among them are Marc Guertin for putting out and taking down our advertising sign; Sue Braun for our write-ups in Steeple Tidings; hostess Doris Mack, Linda Versteeg, Linda Borio and Jill Dynia; Holly Fisher as our costumer; and ushers Judy Locke, Kathie Kelley, Kerry Fracasso and Christian Fracasso. A special thank you goes to John Fisher who not only ushered but also directed traffic in the parking lot and portrayed Simeon in the cantata. Another special thank you to Bill Kiner as Zechariah, Leslee Young as Mary, Jeremy Young as Joseph, David Kiner as a shepherd and Rev. Williams as the pastor. Kudos to brand-new member, Donald Sedor, who stepped in as the Wise Man at the last minute. Barbara Sackett helped me assemble the costumes for our actors and Irene Mosher made the scrolls and donated Mary's ensemble. Oh yes, just one other minor item: Thank you Julie, for sharing your talents with us.

We had full houses both days and received many kind comments on the concert. Without all the above people agreeing to gladly help out, it would have been impossible to present the concert. Bless you all and may you have a wonderful 2020.

Joyce Young, President
Enfield Community Chorus

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

IN SERVICE IN JANUARY

DATE	LITURGIST	NURSERY	GREETERS	COFFEE	USHERS	COUNTERS
Jan. 5	Esta Clarke Communion Steward: Leslee Young	Tracy McDonagh Linda Versteeg	Holly Fisher		Walt Skukowski Kathie Kelley Mike Dynia Judy Locke	Diane Joseph Ernie Jensen
Jan. 12	Scout Sunday	Esta Clarke Nancy Dembek	Scouts		Christian Chlebowski Kathie Kelley Christian Fracasso Kathie Kelley	Holly Fisher Deb Cook
Jan. 19	Leslee Young	Doris Mack Vernell Sandford	Michael & Robin Barrett		Walt Skukowski Kathie Kelley Kerry Fracasso Judy Locke	Elaine Folkers Isobel Skukowski
Jan. 26	Elaine Folkers	Daye Guertin Nicole Galbraith	Tony & Esta Clarke		Judy Locke Kathie Kelley Kerry Fracasso Christian Fracasso	Diane Joseph Ernie Jensen
Feb. 2	Phyllis Phelan	Amy Troiano Dee Chlebowski		Souper Bowl		Tony Clarke John Fisher