

March

2020

Steeple



Tidings

Sharing God's love with each other and the world

SUNDAY SCHEDULE

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

Scripture Reading

“Is not this the kind of fasting I have chosen: to loose the chains of injustice and untie the cords of the yoke, to set the oppressed free and break every yoke? Is it not to share your food with the hungry and to provide the poor wanderer with shelter— when you see the naked, to clothe them, and not to turn away from your own flesh and blood?
Isaiah 58:6-7

Prayer for the Month

A Lenten Prayer

**Lord may Lent be a
time of inward
searching that makes
me more able to look
with compassion at the
needs of the world.
Amen**

Quick News and Events

March 3—Quilters BWR, 6:30pm
March 4—Healing Service, Sanctuary, 7pm
March 5—Soup and Study, UMCE, 6pm
March 8—Circle of Hope, BWR, 5pm
March 10—Parkway Service, 10:30am
March 12—Soup and Study, HUMC, 6pm
March 13—Dinner, FH, 5-8pm
March 16—**QPR Training, BWR 6:30pm**
March 19—Prayer Shawl, Yates, 12 noon
Soup and Study, UMCE, 6pm
March 24—Evergreen Service, 11am

For Complete Calendar go to humcEnfield.org

Some Thoughts from Me —Rev. David Williams



There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear. (1 John 4:18)

As I write this, we are a world that is awash in fear. The Coronavirus is running rampant and people are living in fear that we may not be able to stop it. It has moved out of Asia and is now touring Italy and Iran. A few cases have even been discovered here, in America. Some pundits are likening it to the flu pandemic of 1918 that killed so many people (we're nowhere close to that, yet, but that is not stopping the dire predictions.) The stock market is reacting badly to all of this, dropping nearly 10% in the last few days. This, naturally, has stoked fears in those who are retired, or soon to be retired, in that the value of most IRAs and 401(k)'s rises and falls with the market.

We are entering our quadrennial political race for the White House, where fear continues to dominate the discussions. People on the right afraid of Buttigieg and Warren, not to mention Bernie, while those on the left are terrified that the current occupant of the White House will win another term. And everyone is scared to death of Bloomberg. Most of us are simply grateful we only have to go through this every four years.

And, of course, there are all of the old standby's; gun violence, job insecurity, cuts to social safety net programs, and families under siege. Clearly we are living in an unsettled and scary time. But if it is any consolation, we are not the first to encounter such a world, and we probably won't be the last.

In the early days of the Church times were just as scary, if not more so. Christians were persecuted because they would not acknowledge the Emperor as

divine. The claim that there is one, and only one God—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit—stood in stark contrast to the rest of the Roman world. And so Christians worshipped in fear; gathering in hidden places or cowering in the catacombs. It was to this world that John wrote those wonderful words about love casting out fear. We do not fear judgment—either from God or the world—because of the perfect love of Jesus Christ. We do not fear death, because the love of Christ has assured our place in heaven, and we are promised a life that never ends. We do not fear the machinations of the world, because we know that the One in us is greater than the one in the world. To live our lives in fear is to deny the promises of God, and that is something, as a people of God, that we just cannot do.

And so we move forward. Yes, we need to take precautions. If you are sick, please do not come to church. We are working hard to get the Live Stream working, and hope to overcome the obstacles soon. You can worship at home with us via the magic of modern technology without putting anyone at risk of catching what you have. We can watch over each other so that our retirees as well as our younger families do not suffer from the policies of Washington or Hartford. We can remind each other to engage in political discussions with love, not rancor. We can model the love of Christ to the world around us, and in the process we will drive out the fear that our enemy has tried to instill. Calamities will always be a part of our life on earth (as will death, taxes, and politics), but so will love as long as we continue to put it into practice.

May God bless you in the days and weeks to come, and may your heart always be calmed.

God bless,

Dave

MARCH Birthdays

| | |
|-------------------|----------|
| Leonard Chevalier | March 11 |
| Julia Capodicasa | March 13 |
| Linda Chevalier | March 20 |
| Anne Stanzione | March 20 |
| David Sandford | March 23 |
| Thomas Phelan | March 24 |
| Julia Locke | March 31 |

APRIL Birthdays

| | |
|---------------|----------|
| Nancy Dyer | April 01 |
| Frank Troiano | April 03 |
| Susan Braun | April 07 |
| Adam McDonagh | April 12 |

HUMC2025

March 14th, 9am in BWR come and look at what has been done and what is coming up. Add your voice to the what's coming up. Learn how we are all needed to make this a mission of fellowship!

Things you Can Plan on

Prayer Service on Wednesday at 7pm

AA & CDP on Wednesday and Thursday at 6:30

Girl Scouts & Boy Scouts Wednesday at 7pm

Choir Thursday at 7:30pm

Men's Breakfast, Friday at Hometown Kitchen in Somers

Women's Breakfast at Angelina's in Enfield

Sunday Service—10am!

Circle of Hope, a support group for parents and guardians who are concerned about a loved one's substance use or addiction. All families are welcome and encouraged to use our no cost service!

This is a new group that meets in our church the 2nd and last Sunday evening of each month, 5—6:30pm. Spread the word.



Spring is in the air! Spring, the time between winter and summer. Springtime is wonderful! Why is this so? Temperatures are nice; there is more daylight which can certainly be a mood booster; the leaves on the trees return; the birds return; baby animals appear; there's plenty of sunshine; you can open up the windows; you can go outside for your exercise; it is easier to find yummy fresh produce; flowers are in bloom, which most definitely makes you happy! Spring

is just a joyous season for all!

We have had a couple of really nice weather days. When children were told they were going outside the sounds of happy voices could be heard on the floor below us. When children were outside they played with friends running around together, climbing into the boat, swinging on the gliders. It was so nice to hear their shouts of joy and see their faces with smiles from ear to ear! The winter months can be long and we are excited that Spring is here!

During the month of March we have three special events. Miss Ann from the library will come to read to us; the dentist arrives to help us learn about taking care of our teeth; and "Huga Tuga" arrives after several years' absence. "Huga Tuga" is a big blue dragon who inspires children's imaginations through the magic of reading and interactive storytelling. The theatre comes to HWG! This was made possible by the HWG parent group and their fund raising opportunities.

We are continuing to enroll children for the fall. If you know of someone who might be looking for a preschool program, please ask them to give me a call. We do have full day opportunities as well as part time preschool programs.

As always, we ask for your continued support and your prayers.

Until next time.....

Phyllis

Thank You So Much



A message from the kitchen. I would like to extend our sincerest appreciation for the support and feedback the Friday Night Fellowship Dinner staff have received. We hope to continue the monthly series just as long as you find it to be a mission worth supporting. If you have not yet stopped in for one of our dinners please do. If the time or day is not convenient to your schedule, I would be more than happy to cook enough for you and your family and offer a "To-Go" option for you, just sign up and write "To-Go" on your slip and we will have dinner ready for you when it is convenient for you.

God Bless and have a great week.



Hello from the scouts, leaders and families of Troop 108.

The New Year for the Troop started out with 13 scouts and 14 leaders registering for the upcoming year. We also had 5 Webelos Scouts and their parents visit our troop and take a look at crossing over in March 2020 to join in all the fun scouting has to offer. Troop 108 continues to grow and we are looking forward to another year of steady growth among the scouts.

February's Campout was at Horace Moses Scout Camp in Russell, MA. The theme for this weekend will be scout skills, Cooking, and winter snow sports – sledding, snow shoeing, and building of snow shelters. January's Campout was at Workcoeman Scout Camp in New Hartford CT. Eight scouts and 4 leaders enjoyed a cold weekend completing outdoor skills, hiking, cooking, first aid, and wilderness survival.

The troop held our annual Scout Sunday Celebration on Sunday January 12, 2020 to celebrate 82 years of sponsorship by the Hazardville United Methodist Church. In addition to attending services with the HUMC Parishioners and holding our troop banquet and Court of Honor, we will present the 2020 Charter Renewal to Mr. Chris Sackett, Troop 108 Chartered Organizational Representative, that will reflect 82 years continuous membership for the troop being sponsored by the Men's Club of the HUMC with the Boy Scouts. Out of the remaining 3 Boy Scout Troops in Enfield (unfortunately a 4th troop ceased operations last year), Troop 108 is the oldest continuous operating troop in Enfield.

March will bring a candy sale that will raise money for the scouts to participate in Gettysburg, Yawgoog and monthly trips! Look for your scouts to start selling soon!

Planning is starting for Yawgoog 2020 in July. This will be Troop 108's 35th year of attending Camp Sandy Beach at Davy Crockett Campsite. The scouts and leaders enjoy a week in the woods learning life skills and having adventures only found at scout summer camp. We also have one scout that has accepted a position working on the camp staff for his 2nd year! More info will follow in the coming months.

February and March are traditional months where Webelos Crossover events occur and we are expecting a great response with new scouts joining Troop 108. Troop 108 accepts new scouts at any time of the year. If you know of a young man who is at least 11 years old or in the 5th grade or has been awarded the Arrow of Light from Webelos, and would like to join Boy Scouts please let us know. Any potential new scout and his family are welcomed to visit the troop on Wednesday evenings. For more information please have them contact Rick Howe, Scoutmaster, at graphicproductionspecialist@gmail.com.

In addition if you would like information about the Cub Scouting program for young boys & girls ages 5-11 please contact me (Scott Vujs), Troop Committee Chairman at lobster63@cox.net
Until next month Troop 108 is signaling all clear and is signing off.

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

By Scott Vujs (a.k.a. The Old Goat Patrol) Troop 108

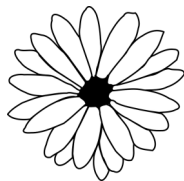


Before Amen

Have you ever struggled with prayer? If so, you are not alone. In this four-session video-based study, bestselling author Max Lucado reveals his struggles with prayer and how he discovered that it is not a privilege for the pious or the art of a chosen few but a simple tool everyone has been given to have a conversation with God. He shows you how to let go of uncertainties about prayer, trust that God hears you, and embrace a prayer life that brings peace and rest. Our study begins Thursday, March 5, at 2 p.m. Classes will be March 5, 12, 26, and Apr. 2.

Flowers

Please sign up for Altar Flowers! This is an easy way to make someone smile on Sunday morning! Call the office or use sign up sheet in library.



SERMON SERIES:

LENT IS A TIME FOR REFLECTION AND CONTEMPLATION, AND THIS YEAR WE ARE GOING TO BE GUIDED BY SOME VERY REAL (AND INSIGHTFUL) LETTERS THAT CHILDREN HAVE WRITTEN TO GOD. JOIN REV. DAVE BEGINNING MAR. 1, AS WE EXPLORE OUR FAITH *"THROUGH THE EYES OF CHILDREN."* WE WILL LOOK AT THE POWER OF OUR WORDS, THE BEAUTY AND WONDER OF GOD'S DESIGN, THE TROUBLE WE HAVE LIVING OUT THE GOLDEN RULE, GOD'S NATIONALITY, AND THE DIFFICULTY WE HAVE WITH THAT WHOLE, "LOVE YOUR BROTHER" THING.

Fellowship Dinner



WE have another Dinner coming up fast! March 13th, 5pm till 7pm. Please RSVP to our email:

hazardvilleumc@sbcglobal.net or call the office 860-749-7098. We are having a baked potato bar and Chili. If you have a good chili recipe consider making it! Sue is working on kitchen help. If you can help early to help with preparations or stay late to help clean up! *All are Welcome!*

Free Will Offering Accepted



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
Mary Lou Sarno,
Peg Steinert,
Ron Uricchio,
Janette Young

Family Illness

The Braun Family
The Kelley Family
The Phelan Family

Safe Travels

Emily Carson
Tyler Craven

Shut-Ins

Elsie Andrews
Diane Hctor
Pat Owens
Ann Stanzione

Recovery

Jeannette Burkhardt
Colleen Williams

Wednesday Evening Healing Services

Our next Wednesday evening Service of Divine Healing will be held on Wednesday, March 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.

Lenten Soup and Study—Beginning on Thursday, February 27, we will be offering a Lenten Soup and Study entitled **“Give Up Something Bad for Lent.”** We will gather at 6 p.m. for a soup supper, followed at 6:30 for our Bible Study. As in the past, this year’s study will be a collaboration between HUMC, the United Methodist Church of Enfield, and Wesley UMC of Windsor Locks. The studies will be led by laity and clergy from the three churches.

February 27: HUMC, 6pm in Fellowship Hall

March 5: UMCE, Fellowship Hall, 6pm

March 12: HUMC, 6pm in Fellowship Hall

March 19: UMCE, Fellowship Hall, 6pm

March 5: HUMC, Fellowship Hall, 6pm

The study book for this study will be available in the Fellowship Hall. We are asking for a \$10 donation to cover the expense of the book, but don’t let the price stop you. Come and be a part of a very interesting study.

QPR Training (Question, Persuade, and Refer)—March 16

A very special opportunity is coming our way. A representative of Enfield Youth and Family Services will be here on Monday evening, March 16, to conduct a QPR training session. What is QPR? QPR stands for **Q**uestion, **P**ersuade, and **R**efers — the 3 simple steps anyone can learn to help save a life from suicide. QPR is an **emergency mental health intervention** for suicidal persons.

As a QPR-trained Gatekeeper you will learn to:

Recognize the warning signs of suicide

Know how to offer hope

Know how to get help and save a life

Just as people trained in CPR and the Heimlich Maneuver help save thousands of lives each year, people trained in QPR learn how to recognize the warning signs of a suicide crisis and how to question, persuade, and refer someone to help.

Gatekeepers can be anyone, but include parents, friends, neighbors, teachers, ministers, doctors, nurses, office supervisors, squad leaders, foremen, police officers, advisors, caseworkers, firefighters, and many others.

The class begins at 6:30 on the 16th and is free and open to anyone. Come and learn these vital skills.

IN SERVICE IN MARCH

| DATE | LITURGIST | NURSERY | GREETERS | COFFEE | USHERS | COUNTERS |
|---------|---|-----------------------------------|----------|--------|--|---------------------------------------|
| Mar 1 | Leslee Young Communion Steward: Leslee Young | Doris Mack Vernell Sandford | | | Walt Skukowski Kathie Kelley Judy Locke Kerry Fracasso | Holly Fisher Deb Cook |
| Mar 8 | Holly Fisher | Daye Guertin Nicole Weeks | | | Kathie Kelley Judy Locke Donald Sedor Christian Chlebowski | Bonnie LaMondia Sue Fracasso |
| Mar 15 | Kathie Kelley | Amy Troiano Dee Chlebowski | | | Kathie Kelley Kerry Fracasso Mike Dynia Walt Skukowski | Holly Fisher Diane Babcock |
| Mar 22 | Linda Borio Pick a Pew | Ashley Collins Robin Barrett | | | Judy Locke Christian Fracasso Walt Skukowski Ernie Jensen | Bonnie LaMondia Sue Fracasso |
| Mar. 29 | Sam Turkson | Tracy McDonagh Nancy Dembek | | | Kathie Kelley Judy Locke Donald Sedor Kerry Fracasso | Elaine Folkers Isobel Skukowski |