

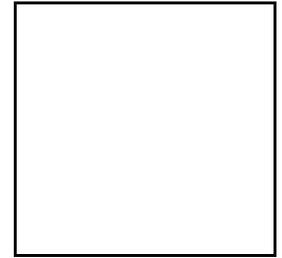


The Messenger

February 2019

The United Methodist Church of Enfield
41 Brainard Road Enfield CT, 06082

phone: (860) 745-6241
<http://www.umce.org>



Office Hours:

Tuesday - Friday, 9:00AM-Noon

Sunday Worship:

10:00AM Service

Sunday School:

9:00AM Children ages 3 - Adult

Supervised Nursery:

For infants and children up to 5 years

Choir Rehearsals:

Wednesday evenings 7:00-8:30PM

Prayer Shawl Ministry:

Wednesdays 9:30AM

Men's Group:

Thursdays 10:00AM

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Special Church Conference

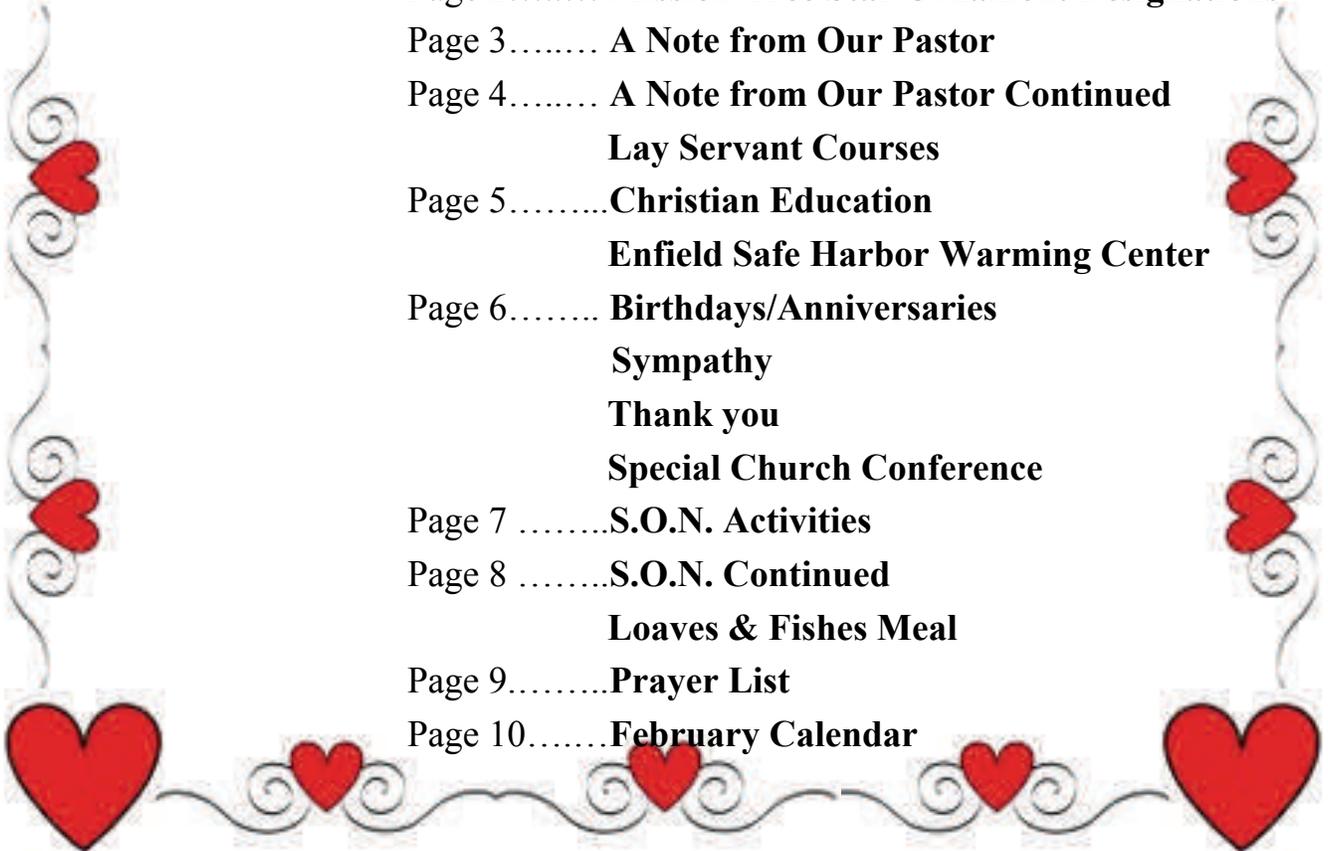
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Star Ornaments



Many thanks to those who purchased star ornaments for our Christmas mission tree.

All donations benefited the Enfield Safe Harbor Warming Center.

Love for our children & grandchildren from Wendy & Alan Morse

In loving memory of family who have passed away from Wendy & Alan Morse

In memory of my parents Minas & Norma Deranian from Pastor Janet Deranian

In honor of family & friends from Pastor Janet Deranian

In honor of the congregation of UMC-Enfield from Pastor Janet Deranian

In loving memory of Joseph Tracy from the Thim family

In celebration of all God's blessings from the Crousers

In loving memory of Carl & Lynn Champagne from the Champagnes

In loving memory of Ralph & Joan Thresher from the Champagnes

In loving memory of Doris Scalia from the Justice family

In loving memory of Marc Justice from the Justice family

In celebration of our children & grandchildren from Neal & Sue Peterson

In memory of loved ones from Neal & Sue Peterson

In loving memory of our son Mark Lamond from Jim & Connie Lamond

In loving memory of our grandson Craig from Jim & Connie Lamond

In honor of our children & grandchildren from Steve & Jeanne Champagne

In loving memory of Dorothy Hopkins from Bob & Donna Phelps

In honor of Peter & Billy Oakes from Doug & Karen Oakes

In honor of Rachel Peterson from Doug & Karen Oakes

In memory of Norma & Graham Oakes from Doug & Karen Oakes

In memory of Muriel & Carl Peterson from Doug & Karen Oakes

In memory of Annabelle & Louis Johrden from Doug & Karen Oakes

In memory of Bob & Kay Peterson (Marg) from Doug & Karen Oakes

In loving memory of Danny Browne from Marion Browne

In loving memory of Dan & Lillian Browne from Marion Browne

In loving memory of Ken & Ida Goodsell from Marion Browne

In loving memory of Gregg Menard & Debbie Stearns from the Menards

In loving memory of Susan Menard from the Menards

In memory of Dr. Roy Jacob from Annie Roy

A Note from Our Pastor

From February 23-26, the General Conference of The United Methodist Church will meet in St. Louis, Missouri. Typically the General Conference meets every four years – the last meeting was in 2016. It is the only body that can speak for the entire United Methodist denomination. Because homosexuality and the questions of how to live faithfully in response have occupied significant portions of General Conference for over forty years, the Council of Bishops announced a special General Conference at the 2016 gathering. This special meeting of The United Methodist Church’s top lawmaking assembly will be limited to:

“The purpose of the 2019 Special Session of the General Conference shall be limited to receiving and acting upon a report from the Commission on a Way Forward based upon the recommendations of the Council of Bishops.”

The Commission on a Way Forward was proposed by the Council of Bishops and approved by the 2016 General Conference to do a complete examination and possible revision of every paragraph of the United Methodist Book of Discipline concerning human sexuality and explore options that help to maintain and strengthen the unity of the church. The commission includes 8 bishops, 13 clergy and 11 lay members. Members come from 14 U.S. states and 8 other countries. The group includes 14 women and 18 men. Their viewpoints on this issue range the entire spectrum. Here’s a link to their final 93-page report: http://s3.amazonaws.com/Website_Properties/council-of-bishops/news_and_statements/documents/Way_Forward_Report_-_Final_-_ENGLISH.pdf

The work of the Commission on a Way Forward resulted in a report that can be summarized into three plans – the One Church Plan, the Connectional Conference Plan and the Traditional Plan. The One Church Plan, preferred by a majority of the Council of Bishops, would remove restrictive language from the Book of Discipline that prohibits same-gender weddings in UMC properties and ordination of “self-avowed practicing homosexuals.” It would add language to protect churches and pastors who choose not to allow same-gender marriages. The Connectional Conference Plan would replace the current jurisdictional conferences with three connectional conferences based on affinity: Progressive, Traditional and Unity. These three connectional conferences would use a general Book of Discipline with the ability to adapt other portions to their context for ministry. The Traditional Plan broadens the definition of “self-avowed practicing homosexual”; puts penalties in place for disobedience to the Discipline; and requires bishops, pastors and annual conferences to certify adherence to the Discipline. In addition to the report from the Commission on a Way Forward, the delegates to The General Conference will also consider 78 pieces of legislation related to the purpose of this special session of GC.

If you would like to know more about the official position of The United Methodist Church on homosexuality, please see the summaries and links to more information below. Faith-filled people who disagree with these statements are working hard to change them, believing that God’s love and peoples’ desire to serve God with love happen without regard to sexual orientation or identity. The New England Annual Conference is known for being one of the most liberal conferences in the connection. The Board of Ordained Ministry for the New England Annual Conference evaluates candidates’ calls to ordained ministry regardless of “race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, marital status or age.”

New England Conference webpage about 2019 General Conference: www.neumc.org/gc2019

The United Methodist Church webpage about 2019 General Conference:
<http://www.umc.org/topics/general-conference-2019-special-session>

Let's pray for all the delegates to The Special Session of General Conference, and for the Holy Spirit to guide them, regardless of where you stand on this issue. There is a diversity of opinion – but that is ok. Being of the same mind that was in Christ Jesus (see Philippians 2:1-13) does not mean agreeing on everything as a faith community, but on having the same emphasis on love as Christ.

Peace & grace,
Pastor Janet

Statements from the 2016 *Book of Discipline of The United Methodist Church* (numbers refer to paragraph numbers):

¶ 4. **Article IV. Inclusiveness of the Church:** The United Methodist Church acknowledges that all persons are of sacred worth. All persons without regard to race, color, national origin, status, or economic condition, shall be eligible to attend its worship services, participate in its programs, receive the sacraments, upon baptism be admitted as baptized members, and upon taking vows declaring the Christian faith, become professing members in any local church in the connection. [View full statement.](#)

¶ 214. **Eligibility:** All people may attend its worship services, participate in its programs, receive the sacraments and become members in any local church in the connection (¶ 4). [View full statement.](#)

¶ 304.3: The practice of homosexuality is incompatible with Christian teaching. Therefore self-avowed practicing homosexuals are not to be certified as candidates, ordained as ministers, or appointed to serve in The United Methodist Church. [View full statement.](#)

¶ 341.6: Ceremonies that celebrate homosexual unions shall not be conducted by our ministers and shall not be conducted in our churches.



What is a Lay Servant? And what do they accomplish?

A Lay Servant is a good active, supportive member of a United Methodist congregation who is eager to be in ministry through the church. He or she is well-informed on scripture, doctrine, heritage, organization and life of The United Methodist Church and is committed to witnessing through church and community leadership, care giving ministries, and spoken communication. A Lay Servant is willing to initiate ministry in partnership with clergy and other Lay Servants and willing to improve his or her skills for service. Those in Lay Servant Ministry serve in many ways: visitation, leading a study, singing in the choir, serving at a lunch program, teaching Sunday School, sending out church or personal prayers, volunteering to clean, go on a mission project, or to lead or preach at a worship service. The types of ministry are too numerous to list.

Basic Course

DATE: Saturday, March 16th & 30th 2019

TIME: 8:30AM - 2:30PM

LOCATION: New Covenant UMC
16 Church St., East Hartford, CT

LEADER: *Pastor David Martin*

Advance Course

DATES: Saturday, March 9, 8:30AM - 12:30PM

DATES: Saturday, March 23, 8:30AM - 12:30PM

DATES: Tuesday, April 2, 5:30PM - 8:30PM

LOCATION: Hope UMC
31 Main St., Belchertown, MA 01007

LEADER: *Rev. Joy Toll-Chandler*

Here is the link for more information as well as the registration form for both classes.

<https://www.neumc.org/layservantscwm>

For further questions contact
George Button, *Registrar* at 413-584-3189
or at geobtn70@gmail.com.

Christian Education News

Sunday School is for all ages! All are welcome!

Adult Class with Don Crouser: 9:00 – 9:45AM.

Youth Classes with Lorraine Creedon and Linda Thorn: 9:00 AM—10:15 AM. Gathering time 9:15 for prayer. Youth will be brought to the Sanctuary to sit with their families.



The Education Bulletin Board has a new challenge for you!

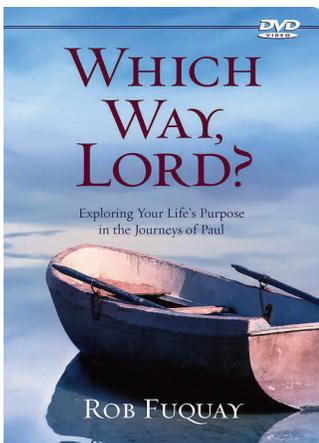
HOW DO YOU SAY LOVE?



We need your input! There are small pieces of paper located on the bulletin board. Take one and write or draw your way. Or bring a picture or photograph from home to share. Find something that stirs your heart in a magazine, devotional, website.....and share with your church family.

The challenge is to fill the bulletin board this month with your ways of saying love.

And remember that no matter how we say it, our God always understands our gifts of love because GOD SPEAKS ALL LANGUAGES.



Adult Sunday School

Join Don Crouser and the adult class on Sunday mornings at 10AM as the group watches the DVD “Which Way, Lord?” by Rob Fuquay and explores your life’s purpose in the journeys of Paul.



Join us on the 1st & 3rd Saturday of the month as we continue our journey of faith using Growing Strong in the Seasons of Life by Charles Swindoll. Potluck breakfast at 9:00 AM. Whenever you can, come to enjoy the fellowship and shared faith journey. For more information see Linda Thorn (860)741-3157, LindaMThorn@cox.net or Lorraine Creedon (860)749-0931, lacreedon@yahoo.com.



Volunteers Wanted for The Enfield Safe Harbor Winter Warming Center
383 Hazard Ave.,
Holy Trinity Episcopal Church
Enfield, CT 06082

As we continue to prepare for this winter season and it's bitterly cold temperatures, we are in need of volunteers to help make our warming center a warm and safe place for the homeless to get out of the cold. Please consider committing at least one or two nights per month during this winter season. Volunteers are also needed to serve on committees and provide administrative/clerical support. For more information please contact:

Monica Wright at 860-970-9065,
mwright.eshwc@gmail.com

or Lorraine Creedon at 860-749-0931,
lacreedon@yahoo.com.

February Birthdays



2. Bill Thim
3. Matt Allen
Barbra Galovich
4. Tim Phelps
7. Cailley Browne
11. Nancy Blinn
18. Dave Trumble
21. Harry Seilhammer
24. Bill Oakes

Happy Anniversary

Dave & Diane Trumble
February 12, 1966



We are saddened by the loss of 2 long time members of UMC-Enfield; Joanne Tait passed away on December 20, 2018 and Joan Hess passed away on January 23, 2019.

Both women joined UMCE on June 13, 1965 and were received into membership by the Rev. Evan Johnson.

A service was held for Joanne on December 27th. A service celebrating Joan's life will be held on February 9th at 11:00AM.

Thank You

Dear UMCE Family,

you are all such a wonderful blessing to us! Thank you for all your cards, presents and for your generous Christmas gifts. May each of you feel the love of Christ this year.

Happy New Year,
Pastor Janet, Lynne & Dorie



Upcoming Church Conference for UMC-Enfield

February 19, 6pm

The Capital Improvement Working Group has identified upcoming capital projects, working with the Trustees. A list of priority projects has led to the need for a capital campaign, which will be launched later this year. As part of this initiative, the Church Council is recommending that funds set aside from the Sharing God's Grace campaign be released for pending capital improvements, a purpose in line with the restriction on these funds set earlier at the time of the discontinuance of the SGG campaign.

There will be a special Church Conference on **Tuesday, February 19 at 6pm** to formally vote on the release of these funds. All members are invited to attend this special Church Conference and to vote. Rev. Dr. David Calhoun, our district superintendent, will preside.

To prepare for the special Church Conference, there will be an information session on Sunday, February 10 after worship, led by the Church Council, to review the recommendations and upcoming projects.



A thought for January 2019:
“The heavens are telling the glory of God;
and the firmament proclaims his handiwork.”
Psalm 19:1

Winter is here!

Winter is definitely here with cold temperatures, snow and ice. Why focus on the cold? God’s creatures are busy in this winter wonderland. Look for the winter robins feeding on the berries, which have been prepared by the cold temperatures to be the perfect food. See if you can spot the snow tunnels of the chipmunk and mice in the new snow. Watch the bounds of the squirrels as they run across the winter ground. Observe the rising and setting of the winter sun and moon as the days get longer. Give thanks for the wondrous cycle of life that we experience right here.

Last Sunday Activity

Did you make the January Last Sunday Activity: our Chili Cook-off. If you did not have an opportunity to come join the fellowship and the great chili, then PLEASE mark your calendar for our next event. February 24 will be our winter potluck. Please sign up to attend on the sign-up sheet in the entryway or contact Linda Thorn 860-741-3157.

Outreach Collection

We are collecting undies and socks for the Enfield People for People Warming Center. All donated items will be taken to the Warming Center as given as a gift of God’s Love to those individuals using the center. For further information, please contact Linda Thorn or Lorraine Creedon.

Pray for First Responders

We have a basket with toy police and fire personnel figurines in the narthex. Please take one home as a reminder to pray for all the first responders that keep our community safe. Remember to say a pray for their skills and safety.

Would you like to help make cookies for our first responders? We are considering making cookies and delivering them to our first responders. We need helping hands to bake and package cookies. If you are interested in joining in this experience, please let any SON committee member know.

Communion Offerings

Our communion offering for February will be directed to Enfield People for People Warming Center. All donations this month will contribute to keeping the warming center open during these cold winter months. In March, we will be supporting the UMCOR Sunday. More information will be posted on our bulletin boards. Thank you for supporting these missions through your communion offerings.

-Continued on next page-



Do you have your UMCE t-shirt?

Remember the beautiful yellow shirt with the Methodist cross on it. Let's wear them to celebrate our faith during our mission and fellowship activities. If you need a t-shirt, then please see a member of the SON committee or Linda Thorn to get one!

Join us in the Fellowship Hall for coffee and snack after church on every Sunday.

Take time to relax and enjoy your church family. Enjoy the good company, good coffee, and good snacks. Share your thoughts with Pastor Janet.

Please remember to wear your name tag, so Pastor Janet will have an opportunity to learn our names. We will have a basket where you may leave your badge in the Fellowship Hall.

Enfield Food Shelf

Please continue to help your community Food Shelf help our poor. Look for the sales in your favorite supermarket. They need items for school lunches, snacks, and easy meals (canned or boxed). Thank you for your support of our community Food Shelf.

Emergency Meals

We have some special dinners in the freezer for emergency use. All are made with love and filled with prayers. Please remember this resource for anyone in need : friends, family, neighbors, etc. If you need a meal for yourself, family or friends in need, please see Pastor Janet or a member of the SON committee.

Please let us know if the freezer is getting low on meals, so we will know when to start cooking our next set of meals. THANKS!

If you would like to join this ministry, please see Linda Thorn about the next scheduled cooking day!

Remember:

All church members are welcome to attend the following community events.

Parkway Pavilion Bible Study	Monday	10:15 AM - 11:30 AM
Parkway Pavilion Services	Tuesday	3/26/2019 10:30

Rejoice! Linda Thorn
Chairperson of the SON Committee
Linda Thorn (860)741-3157, LindaMThorn@cox.net



Next Loaves & Fishes Meals – February 17, 2019

We continue to serve nutritious meals the 3rd Sunday of every month at Enfield Loaves and Fishes Soup Kitchen, located at 28 Prospect St. in Enfield. The entrance to the kitchen entrance is located behind the building on Thompson Court. We need dishwashers, cooks, servers, bakers, table washers and floor moppers to help us feed those in need. A signup sheet is up on the bulletin board if you would like to be part of this Ministry. Set-up 1-3:30 pm, Serve 3:30-5pm, Clean-up 4:30-6pm or you can sign up to bake a dessert and bring to church ahead of time. Please talk to Lorraine Creedon for more information (860) 749-0931 or lacreedon@yahoo.com. Thank you for all your support!