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**Mission Statement**

As followers of Jesus Christ, our mission is to make Christian Disciples:
- by using our spiritual gifts; by practicing the means of grace;
- and by living our faith.

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**Summer at HUMC**

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**Worship at HUMC**

Sundays at 9 AM in August

Sunday School off for the summer.

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**Sermon Series**

It was the prayer book of the nation of Israel; Jesus quoted from it on the Cross; it has given us some of our most beloved, inspirational, and comforting passages in all of scripture—it is the Book of Psalms. Join Rev. Dave for “The Lord is My Shepherd (and Other Neat Ideas)”—a five week exploration of this powerful and fascinating book that has captured the imaginations and stirred the spirits of people of faith for thousands of years. During the series we will explore:

- Planting an Idea (August 5 – An Overview of the Psalms)
- Praise the Lord! (August 12 – Psalms of Praise)
- Give Thanks to the Lord (August 19 – Psalms of Thanksgiving)
- For Crying Out Loud (August 26 – Psalms of Lament)
- Not Even a Stubbed Toe (September 2 – Psalms of Deliverance)
You know, one of the things I enjoy most about living in New England is that we enjoy four seasons (five if you count Mud Season), and summer is very much a part of that mix. It is a time for picnics and vacations, for kicking back and taking it a little slower and easier. It is hard to believe, but summer is winding down. Soon September will be here, and that means kids going back to school, worship moving back to 10:00 (beginning on the 9th), Sunday School, choir, Bible Studies, and all of the other programs and groups which form the heart and soul of HUMC will be back in full swing. Still, summer isn’t over yet, and I don’t need to rush it.

I was reminded of the very real presence of summer this week as I helped teach the Bible stories in Vacation Bible School. Boy, was it hot! And yet, there we were, a committed group of volunteers playing, teaching, and having fun with a group of enthusiastic kids. We had Bible stories and games, crafts and music, and food (well, we’re Methodists after all). It was a great time, and I was very touched and impressed by the caring and dedication of Becky Michaud and her staff. These adults, some of whom were involved with VBS for the first time, spent countless hours in preparation and planning, not to mention the time spent teaching (and sweating). It was a great week, and I look forward to next year’s offering.

There are other aspects of summer that are also going on. Next week I will be away on my annual planning retreat. I have received several great ideas from the sermon surveys, along with requests for some very difficult topics. I pray that I do these requests justice, and that God works in and through me to answer your questions. Time will tell. Still, it is a week that I look forward to very much each year, and it is very much an anchor for my summer.

We also have the coming mission trip to the Salem Economic Ministry in Maine to look forward to. Once again several of our members, along with members of various other churches will be traveling to northern Maine to work with and for the people of that area. As always there will be construction projects, VBS for the local children, work in the Ministry Thrift Shop, group devotions, and general relationship building all taking place in the name of, and for the glory of God. We are so blessed to have this committed group of people, some of whom spend their entire summer vacation as part of this team. Now that is dedication!

And of course, there are all of those “other” aspects of summer that I so enjoy... cookouts, picnics, family gatherings, day trips, and general down time. There are gardens to tend (and corn to harvest, I hope), grass to mow (okay, not everything is something I look forward to), and visitors to entertain. Like I said, I love summer.

Regardless of what you are doing this summer, I hope that you are enjoying the pace, and taking advantage of all that the season has to offer. I hope that you are continuing to worship regularly, and that you are aware of all of the ways that God is at work in your life. Fall will be here soon enough, as will a resumption of all of the “church things” that keep us so busy. But like I said, don’t rush it. Enjoy this season for all that God created it to be.

And please keep our mission team in your prayers, as you are always in mine.

Dave
New Bishop Appointed to New England

The Northeastern Jurisdictional Committee on Episcopacy has appointed Bishop Sudarshana Devadhar to the Boston Episcopal Area, where he will serve as resident bishop of the New England Conference. Sudarshana Devadhar was born into a family of clergypersons and has been a follower of God all of his life. The name “Devadhar” means “follower of God.” Suda, as he is called, began his pastorate as a deacon at the Church of South India, Mercara Coorg, India. He holds a B.Com. degree from Vijaya College, University of Mysore, Mulki, India; a B.D., degree from United Theological College, Bangalore, India; an M.Th. degree from Perkins School of Theology, Southern Methodist University; and an M.Phil. and a Ph.D. from Drew University.

Before 2004, Suda served for eight years as the district superintendent for the Ontario District of the North Central New York Annual Conference. During his tenure as district superintendent, he was known for those men and women he brought to Central New York to share their theology, their visions, and their lives. The diversity of the views they shared brought richness in many areas into the lives of the clergy and laity he called friends.

Sudarshana Devadhar was elected to the episcopacy at the Northeastern Jurisdictional Conference in July, 2004. He began his assignment as the leader of the New Jersey Episcopal Area on September 1, 2004. “I envision a Church of the Pentecost in which the Holy Spirit is igniting, gifting and empowering God’s children of all ages, backgrounds, colors and personalities to glorify their Creator as passionate witnesses for Jesus Christ,” said Bishop Devadhar. “Such a church does not merely serve the poor, the left out, the different, but welcomes them warmly into its hearts, homes, and worship.”

Bishop Devadhar enjoys spending time with his family. His wife, Prema, is his partner in ministry and they are blessed with an adult daughter, Trina. Bishop Devadhar also enjoys reading and listening to devotional music. His key philosophies in life are to love everyone, every human being who is a child of God, enjoy God’s creation, and make use of it responsibly.

Nursing Home Outreach Opportunities

This month we will be offering a worship service at Evergreen Nursing and Rehab Center on Tuesday, August 28, at 11:00. The service will last approximately one-half hour and include old favorite hymns, prayers, scripture, a very brief message, and the sacrament of Holy Communion. We are always in need of folks to assist in the singing (no solos, don’t worry) and to just generally greet the residents who come to the service. It’s fun. It’s easy. And it really does make a difference. Hope to see you there!
Many thanks for all of the LOVE OFFERINGS that have come in so far. Thanks also for staying current with your pledges. Both things have helped HUMC continue its mission. I hope everyone enjoys the remainder of the summer.

John Fisher
Finance Committee Chairperson

United Methodist Women—Linda Borio

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN MEETING
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2012
POTLUCK at 6:30 PM

Attention: Men, women, and families with school age children. Please mark your calendars for Tuesday, September 11, 2012, for the UMW potluck supper at 6:30 PM. Just imagine — two potluck meals in one month! What joy... this supper and meeting on the 12th... and our Church Picnic on the 23rd. Adults and youth alike will be ecstatic!!! Our own Elaine Folkers will speak to us on “Ghana”. Elaine taught science and math at Sefwi-Wiawoso Secondar School in the Western Region from 1963-1965. This school welcomed its first students in 1961, a mere two years before Elaine arrived. Join us as we hear about Elaine’s experiences in the 60’s and also during her more recent visits to Ghana in 2005, 2010 and again in 2011.

Normally, our potluck suppers are attended by men and women of our church, but we (the UMW) voted to invite all men, women and families with school age children to this night’s supper and presentation. Jane Clark usually emails all UMW members to see how many are able to attend. She will do this again, but since we are opening this evening to men, women and families with school age children, we ask that you notify Jane at sjclk@cox.net or call her at 860-749-7379, so that we will have enough tables set up for the evening. Please remember to bring a dish to share, as well as your own plate and silverware. Drinks, cups and napkins will be provided.

Chair’s will be Holly and John Fisher
Hostesses are Marie Prior, Janette Burkhardt and Linda Borio

Note: If you decide at the last minute that you are able to attend and hadn’t notified Jane, don’t fret, because as we all know, this is potluck... there will be food aplenty. Please come!

Consecration of Bishop

The Catholic Charismatic Church has invited us to a very special service of consecration on Saturday, August 11 at 2 PM, at which time they will be consecrating the Very Rev. Dwight D. Irons as bishop for the Diocese of Georgia. This is part of a worldwide Council of the CCC, and the will be conducting the ceremony here in our sanctuary.

The Catholic Charismatic Church traces its heritage and apostolic succession through the Old Catholic Church, which cut communion with Rome in 1870. They are also a part of the Charismatic movement which is open to the movement of the Holy Spirit in one's life. Patriarch Augustine I resides in Enfield at the St. Robert’s Monastery on North Maple Street.
Here Wee Grow!— Phyllis Phelan

Here Wee Grow! Preschool enjoyed a week of summer camp. Thirty-four children were here as we played and had fun together. We did a bit of review for those heading off to kindergarten and introduced those who were new to HWG to our school setting.

It was fun to have siblings together, such as Frank and Thomas showing Sophia the ropes….although Sophia has visited before and likes to do her own thing. This was the same for Luke who was trying to take care of his sister Grace….and, like Sophia, Grace has visited before and knew what she wanted to do without any help from the

brother. It was nice to see the ‘big brothers’ caring for the younger siblings however. By mid-week we were all on the same page.

During our camp week we had a special visit from Mystic Aquarium’s traveling program. This was a program we had used before and like then, the children loved hearing and seeing about various sea creatures.

School for Here Wee Grow! will begin with an Open House on Sept 5th. School officially begins on Sept 6th. We look forward to another wonderful year of learning and working with young children and their families.

More information about our school year will be presented in the next issue of Steeple Tidings. Until then remember us with your prayers and support. It will be appreciated.

Until next time……

Communion Offering— Holly Fisher

During the past few months we have been celebrating the children of our church with baptisms, youth Sunday and Vacation Bible School. In August we have a chance to help other children through our donations to the Hattie B. Cooper Community Center. This facility has served Greater Roxbury, MA, and its surrounding neighborhoods for nearly 100 years. It provides under-served children and their families with vital educational programs that facilitate growth and development, while creating opportunities for future successes.

The infant and toddler program establishes an early learning fundamental that is critical to a child’s early development and well-being. The Preschool places a focus on school readiness. After School serves children ages 5 – 12 providing them with a safe, supervised environment during after school hours while Camp Unity gives these same children a unique approach to summer education.

Please be generous with your communion offering so that these children can have experiences which foster their growth and learning in a safe and caring environment.

To that wonderful volunteer production staff…

Heartfelt thanks to the gracious, considerate production staff whose nimble fingers made short work of our June/July issue of Steeple Tidings . . .

Pat Owens and Nancy Dyer with special thanks to Don Niemann for all his support and help.

Where would we be without volunteers???
October will be here before you know it. The Wednesday Crafters have been busy bees gearing up for this event. If you are unable to join us on Wednesday mornings, perhaps you can be creative at home. This year we hope to feature a Baby Boutique and would love to have baby items, such as bibs, burp cloths, receiving blankets that can be sewed at home. Or perhaps you are busy knitting and crocheting and can make baby hats, mittens and baby blankets. Children’s craft aprons are always a big seller. Or if you are not inclined to create woodcraft items, we welcome your fall or Christmas creations.

Donations of the following items would be appreciated:

- Fabric ribbons of all sizes
- Autumn and Christmas fabrics
- Baby flannel material
- Country fabrics
- Fall and Christmas silk flowers and leaves
- Old Jewelry
- Granma’s Attic Items
- And, of course, monetary donations are never refused.

Donations can be dropped off in the box in the library.

Thank you for helping us make this Harvest Fair a success.

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**Movie Night**

Back by popular demand—it’s HUMC Movie Night! On **Saturday, August 18**, at 7:00 PM we’re going to relive those good old days when movies were fun, and you could take the whole family and not worry about what you were going to see or hear, with popcorn and a movie. Join us as Gene Kelley, Frank Sinatra, and Jules Munchin, take Ann Miller, Vera-Ellen, and Betty Garrett out and **On The Town**.

We will have seats available, but feel free to bring something comfy to sit on if you’d like. You are also welcome to bring goodies to share. We’ll provide the popcorn, the beverage, and the movie.
Remember to mark your calendars!!

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
SOMERSVILLE, CT
SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 2011
10 AM—5 PM
Rain or Shine
Worship Service—10 AM
Followed by kids games
Lunch (hamburgers and hotdogs)
Second Annual Bocce Tournament

Please sign up in Fellowship Hall indicating how many in your family will attend and what side dish, salad or dessert you will bring.

Also, we are looking for volunteers to set up, cook and take down. Please email Sue Fracasso at sbiker@msn.com if you can help out.

Hope to see everyone there!!

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Greetings from Troop 108 — Scott Vujs

Greetings from Troop 108. We hope that everyone is enjoying the summer time weather and activities with their families and friends.

Since the last time I wrote to you, Troop 108 is in full swing with many summer activities and planning for the upcoming scouting year. Our scouts and leaders have participated in the Enfield Memorial Day Parade, Naval Ritual, the Enfield 4th of July celebration, and assisted with various Eagle Service Projects to benefit a variety of organizations in our community.

In June, the Senior Patrol Leader (SPL) and Assistant SPL sat down with our boy leaders of the troop and planned out activities for the next scouting year. While many favorites are being scheduled, some new adventures await our scouts. The 75th Anniversary played heavily into our planning and our big trip will be to Washington, DC – just as it was during our 25th (1963) and 50th (1988) anniversary trips.

We are also in full throttle mode as the troop’s attendance at Yawgoog Scout Reservation summer camp is only a week away from this writing. The troop will bring 31 scouts and 9 registered leaders to camp this summer. In addition, two of our leaders are currently working at camp – Vincent Criscitelli as the Three Point Waterfront Director and Andy Stone as the New Frontier Staff Director. Stay tuned for the next edition of the Steeple Tidings as I will detail many of the adventures from our week at summer camp.

Several folks have asked about making a donation to our 75th Anniversary committee to help defray some of the costs of the activities planned. If you would like to make a donation, please contact Rick Gorman (rgorman16@hotmail.com) or Rich Stroiney (rstroiney@cox.net) for more information.

Congratulations to Austen Juhasz on becoming Troop 108’s 68th Eagle Scout! Austen completed his Eagle Board of Review in July to become the troop’s 67th Eagle Scout.

Troop 108 will start the weekly meetings on September 12th for the new scout year. It will be the troop’s 75th year of continuous operations since 1938 – making the troop the oldest troop in Enfield!

Enjoy the rest of the summer!

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

Vacation Bible School is over for another year and we are happy that we had two successful weeks this year. There were 35 attendees the first week and 30 the second. We added a lot of new families who had not been with us in the past. and said they “can’t wait until next year.”

Thanks to all who volunteered, suffered through the heat, and came out happier and unscathed at the end of the program. Special thanks to the seven teenage helpers we had for both weeks.

I can’t wait until December when they announce the new programs so planning can start for 2013. See you then!!
Please keep the following in your prayers

John Allen, Ed Butcher, Jacob Carlander, Jane Clark, Berta Clawson, Raymond Grandon, Carrie Ingalls, Molly Johnson, Nancy Johnson, Mary Nickerson, Peg Smith, Peg Steintert, Joe Swart, Art and Millie Witkoske,

Pray also for these Members

Babs Baker, Redstone Rehab Facility, 135 Benton Dr, E.Longmeadow, MA
Asa and Hildegarde Waller, Suffield House, 1 Canal Road, Suffield, CT
Bertha Somero, Parkway Healthcare, 1157 Enfield Street, Enfield, CT
Joseph Swart, Parkway Healthcare, 1157 Enfield Street, Enfield, CT

In Christian Sympathy
To the Family of Bonnie Hann whose father,
Harold Bartlett, went home to God!