

STEEPLE TIDINGS

NOVEMBER 2009

ISSUE 11-09

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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.



Super Sundays in NOVEMBER

There are some super Sundays coming our way this month.

- ✦ It all begins on **November 1st**, when we celebrate the saints who have gone on to glory. What a truly inspiring witness they are, having labored to lay the foundation upon which we have built and are building our lives.
- ✦ Then, on **November 15th** we will celebrate our faithfulness and commitment to God with Discipleship Sunday. That is the day we will make our financial pledges to underwrite the mission and ministry of our church for the coming year. As part of that celebration, we will have a *potluck luncheon* after church. You are invited to bring a dish to share.
- ✦ **November 22nd** is United Methodist Women's Sunday, when we celebrate the ministry of the women of our church.
- ✦ Advent begins on **November 29th** with the Hanging of the Greens.

A month of Super Sundays.
You won't want to miss a one.



DECEMBER HAPPENINGS AT HUMC

7th Annual Cookie Walk

and

Christmas Tea

December 12, 2009



See article on Page 8.

Some Thoughts From Me— Rev. Dave

The memories are still very fresh; Cheesecake; homemade cookies, breads, and pies; *Death by Chocolate*; coffee, tea, and cider; and lots of good conversation and fellowship. These are the things I will always remember about the recent *Meet and Greet* sessions that were held in people's homes. In eight different gatherings, spread out over five weeks, Colleen and I had the privilege of visiting with, and getting to know better, members of our church. Each meeting was unique, with different people bringing different experiences, different hopes, and different ideas to share. And yet these unique sessions were very much alike in that at the center of each gathering was an intense desire for Hazardville United Methodist Church to grow in love and service to the Lord. At the end of it all, I was convinced that my initial perception of this church was correct, and that Colleen and I have indeed been blessed by being called to be in ministry with you.

As I think back on those sessions I am struck by some of the things I learned—or perhaps relearned is a better way to phrase it—about the vision we share concerning God's work in our lives. I began each session with the same question; "What is the one thing you love most about HUMC?" While the reasons varied (slightly) the answer most people gave was "the people." "This is my family," "This feels like home," "I feel loved here," and "They made me feel welcome from the moment I first walked in the door," were common answers. Over and over again I heard stories of how the church had been there in someone's darkest hour, how the church had offered support and comfort, food and shelter, and became the real presence of Jesus Christ in our midst. There were other answers of course, and they, too, held powerful meanings and associations for those sharing, but the overwhelming answer to my question had to do with the people themselves, living out their call to be the hands and feet of Christ here on earth.

I also asked each group to share their hopes and dreams, their vision, for the future of HUMC. Again, I was struck by the single-minded focus of so many people in so many different settings. Almost without exception the answer I received to that question was, "I'd like to see more kids in church," or along the same vein, "I'd like to see more young families." Many of those answers were rooted in the memory of years gone by, when Sunday Schools had over 100 children, and youth groups were bursting at the seams. Some of those answers were rooted in the understanding that only by reaching out and attracting younger families can we hope to not only grow, but ultimately survive as a missionary outpost for God. There were lots of ideas shared as to how we might accomplish this vision, but when it came to the vision itself there was near unanimity.

There are some lessons that I take away from these sessions, and some that I think apply to us as a church. The first is that we must continue to be that place where people are made welcome. We are a very friendly church. We must remain so. That means that we are not only warm and friendly to each other, but perhaps even more warm and friendly towards the stranger who might come through our doors. Let's not lose sight of them, for to such belongs the future of HUMC. It also means that we need to continue to invest in each other. As a result of these sessions I have begun looking at a variety of ways to offer a variety of small group experiences throughout the church. My goal is to provide a means for every person to be involved in some way outside of Sunday mornings. *See Thoughts on Page 3.*

Thoughts—*continued from page 2.*

The second lesson is that we must continue to make our children and youth a priority. **Here Wee Grow!**, Kids-4-Mission, Sunday School, VBS, and Youth Group (yes, one is coming and will be here before Christmas) are all programs that we must continue to focus on and invest in. I will continue to make the kids time with me on Sunday morning a priority and have begun working on a confirmation class that I hope will take place this year. I also will be working with Kathy and the Education Committee to explore various models for Sunday School to be sure we are offering the best, most dynamic and exciting program possible.

Finally, I learned (or perhaps I should say became even more convinced) that we must continue to make mission and outreach a priority; not for the sake of growth, but for the sake of faithfulness. After all, the Great Commission does not call us to make disciples of HUMC or The United Methodist Church, but to reach out in the name of Jesus Christ to a tired and hurting world. I believe that the biggest lesson to be gleaned from these sessions is that we have that hope, that sense of community, that feeling of love and acceptance that the world is searching for. Working at the Loaves and Fishes, collecting food for the Food Pantry, outreach opportunities to the Salem Economic Ministry and other such missional endeavors are but a small part of our calling to be salt and light for the world.

My thanks to all who hosted the Meet and Greet sessions and to all who attended. They were indeed a wonderful experience, and the lessons learned there will help guide me as I seek to be the pastor that God intends for me to be. To that end, I want to challenge each of us to consider how we might be a part of the vision of this church. How can we continue to be a warm, loving, caring community? How can we do better? What else can we do to attract and retain children, youth, and young families? And what part can you and I play in making these things happen?

We are on an exciting journey indeed. I look forward to sharing it with you.

Dave

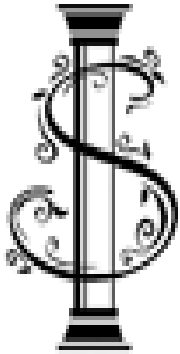
Bible Study

Advent Bible Study. Isaiah wrote that, “the people walking in darkness have seen a great light.” The Gospels tell us that Jesus was the “Light that came into the world.” This Advent, you are invited to explore the season through the Bible Study “The Light Will Shine.” This five week study will take place on Tuesday evenings beginning December 1. Each lesson will begin at 7 PM and will conclude by 8:15. If you are interested, please let Rev. Williams know so that he can be sure there are enough study books.

Let it



Finance—John Sandford



FINANCE REPORT

The following is the current financial status as of this November.

We started out the year with a budget deficit of (\$36,310). Through the generosity of our members, special offerings, fundraisers, fuel fund,, help from Trustees in paying snow removal and property insurance and a careful watch over spending we have paid for most current operating expenses except Mission shares described below. Our total projected income (less transfers) for 2009 is \$152,260 vs. \$145,175 budgeted. Our projected 2009 expenses are \$164,133 vs. \$181,485 budgeted. The net projected shortfall for 2009 is (\$11,873) vs. (\$36,310) budget.

We have paid \$5,530 in Conference Mission Shares with a balance due of \$13,151 remaining in 2009. A Special Mission Share appeal letter has been mailed to the entire congregation explaining this outreach need. Thus far we have received \$1,345 in special mission share contributions. We have received an anonymous matching offer challenge of \$1000 if another \$9000 is raised in our Special Mission share campaign. We urge your support of this offer so that we can meet the challenge. Contributions of \$100 to \$500 and anything in between are encouraged.

Our fund raisers for the rest of 2009 and 2010 will include the Oil Fund, Harvest Fair, Men’s Breakfasts, Christmas Tea and Cookie Walk, Thanksgiving Offering, Christmas offering, Scrip Program, Used Book Sale including food items, Love Letter,, and other special events. We are also planning a series of fund raising dinners in 2010 to help raise more income.

May the Peace of Christ be with you!

The sixth Annual HUMC All Church Picnic was successfully held on Sunday, September 20, 2009 at the Knights of Columbus in Somersville, CT. The church service, fellowship, food, beverages, and numerous games for both the children and adults were outstanding. Approx. 115 fun-loving folks were in attendance.

Rev. David Williams started the picnic day at 11:00 AM with a worship service in the pavilion. Following the worship service approximately. 30 people brought the food and beverages to start the picnic lunch that included hot dogs, hamburgers, hot and cold dishes, salads, and a variety of beverages and tasty desserts.

The afternoon was filled with many fun games for the adults and children, thanks to the efforts of John Fisher, coordinator of the adult games, and Sue Fracasso, coordinator of the children games.

Special thanks to the efforts of the Picnic



Committee of Pat Owens, Kathie Kelley, Cathy DiSalvo, Chuck Carson, Tom Phelan, Chris and Barbara Sackett, Sue Fracasso, Linda Riley and Russ Cook. Also, thanks to the several helpers: Barry Sackett, Ernie Avery, Peter DiSalvo, Marie Prior, Juliane LaRocca, the church choir and to all of those who helped with the set up and clean up of the K of C pavilion.

A thank you goes to those who gave a total of \$45.00 to the “free will” offering and the weekly special church offerings to cover the \$305.00 balance of our K of C

negotiated rental fee of \$350. (The normal K of C pavilion rental fee is \$450.) A final thank you goes to everyone who attended and supported our wonderful all church picnic. We are looking forward to our next year’s picnic in September, 2010. We will see you there !!!

Ted Riley, Chairperson

Communion Offering—*Elaine Folkers*



HUMC's November Communion Offering will go to the *Dankwa Maternity Home* in Ghana, West Africa. Elizabeth Dankwa delivers babies, provides pre-natal and post-natal care, and also does HIV/AIDS education for her community.

Ghana (formerly the Gold Coast) achieved independence from Britain in 1957. I lived in Ghana from 1963-65 and taught science and math at Sefwi-Wiawso Secondary School (SEWASS) in the Western Region. SEWASS is a government sponsored school that opened in 1961 with Elizabeth as one of the first students. Going to secondary school is not free in much of the world and paying the required school tuition and fees often is a barrier to further education.

Elizabeth Dankwa did not have any maternal uncles. That is a major problem in a matrilineal society where descent is determined through the mother. School fees and expenses are usually paid by the mother's brothers. Her father must provide for his sister's children. During my time in Ghana I shared a house with a woman who taught French, and Elizabeth lived with us. In exchange for helping us around the house, we paid Elizabeth's fees. I left Ghana in July 1965, and Elizabeth finished secondary school in 1966.

After leaving SEWASS, Elizabeth entered nurse's training and became a midwife. She holds the record for attending the most number of births in one night at a government hospital. Later Elizabeth opened her own maternity home.

In 2005 I was fortunate to visit Ghana and am excited about all the fine work that she is doing in her community. I am delighted that Outreach has chosen the *Dankwa Maternity Home* as the recipient of our November Communion Offering.

ANGEL TREE



Angel Tree Christmas – This will be our fifth year participating in the Angel Tree Program. This unique ministry gives our church an opportunity to share Christ's love by helping to meet the physical, emotional, and spiritual needs of the families of prisoners. Participating in Angel Tree is a powerful way for our church community to lovingly answer the biblical call to minister to the least of these. In Matthew 18:5 Jesus said, "Whoever welcomes a little child like this in my name welcomes me"

Angel Tree Christmas works by connecting parents in prison with their children through the delivery of Christmas gifts. These children, who would otherwise not receive a Christmas gifts from the incarcerated parents, will know that the parent has not forgotten them. The gifts from our "angels" may be the only presents these children receive. The purchase of these Christmas gifts gives us the chance to demonstrate God's love and personally share the gospel about Jesus. Each child receives two gifts – one fun gift and one article of clothing. Each gift must be new and valued at \$15-\$20. In addition to the Christmas gifts, each child will receive a Christian-themed book and a personalized pillowcase.

Watch for additional information in the weeks to come. Anyone interested in purchasing a gift, helping with delivery of the gifts, or giving a cash donation, (made out to HUMC with memo to Angel Tree) to defray costs for the gospel material can contact Cathy DiSalvo at 749-2707.

Outreach— Sandy Butcher



CALLING ALL HAZARDVILLE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH MILITARY FAMILIES

Would you please call Sandra Butcher, 860-749-0478, if your service man or woman will be away from home during the Christmas holiday. I will also need the most current mailing address. If you prefer, you may give me this address on any Sunday morning, prior to November 15. Packages will need to be mailed on November 16 in order for receipt by Christmas.

HEAR YE! HEAR YE! SUPPORT OUR SERVICE MEN AND WOMEN

Please remember to bring to church small items for our service men and women's Christmas box. Keep the items light in weight and small in size so that we will have a good variety of items. Also, if you would like to write personal notes, or enclose a Christmas card, that will be most welcomed. We look with great anticipation in getting these boxes packed and mailed. Remember, at this time of year, most chocolate will ship pretty well. M&Ms are also good and hard Christmas candy, toiletries in small sizes, game cards (other than the standard decks of cards) are good items as well, as are warm socks. An unbreakable Christmas ornament also travels well and can be used to decorate their quarters, i.e., garland, tinsel. All items need to be received by Sunday, November 15 AT THE LATEST. The earlier the better as we can juggle items and get some fill ins.

Outreach is also collecting new underwear for men, women and children for the Salem Economic Ministry. Please drop off your donations in the Outreach box in the library before November 15.



Have you seen the newly renovated Storage Room lately? It is amazing!

There is now a place for everything and everything is in its place.

What an incredible team effort made this room possible! Many thanks to the team that disassembled the shelf units at Linens and Things, transported them to the church, and then reassembled them; **Tony Clarke, Ernie Avery, Don Niemann, Dave Munson, Don Sim, Richard Prior, and John Fisher.** These guys performed some truly herculean feats, such as assembling a nine foot high unit in a room that is only nine feet three inches high. Incredible! Then **Colleen Williams** took over and worked her organizational magic on the room. The results are truly spectacular.

Thank you to each and every one who played a part. We could not have done it without you!!

Here Wee Grow! — Phyllis Phelan



**HWG
has
the biggest class
this year**

Our theme moves from “fall” to Native Americans. We will talk about the native people who lived long ago, moving from place to place, living off the land to their present day ancestors who are teachers, businessmen, judges, police, etc. We will compare long ago to the present. We’ll talk about how they schooled their children, washed their clothes, foods they ate, games they played, songs they sung and how they cared for their families. We’ll compare all this to the present. We’ll find similarities and differences between then and now.

We’ll end our November by having a feast of our own. Families may join us for the potluck luncheon we will host. It will be a day to say thanks for the children and their families who attend **Here Wee Grow!** It will be a day to say thanks for all the wonderful food we have to eat. It will be a day to say thanks for allowing us the time to be together as friends and family. We are all looking forward to this.

Our enrollment is the largest ever. For this we are very thankful. We had our first school parties as we celebrated ‘fall’, ‘Halloween’ and the first two months of school. We were able to spend time with some of our family members who joined us on our party day. It was nice having this time together.

The Hazardville Fire Department arrived to show off the fire trucks and talk about fire safety. Ms. Smith showed up to take some very photogenic pictures!

The month was busy for the staff as well. All staff attended a meeting with our representative from the Accreditation Facilitation Project. Ms. Fowler is helping us with all the portfolio information among other things that will help us with our re-accreditation. Mrs. Barrett and I attended another meeting in Hartford on the physical environment in and around our school. This program gave us information that we will need for our re-accreditation. I attended a workshop in East Hartford on Health Safety. This was a special workshop provided by the State of CT Health Department. I also attended a special meeting between some members of the Enfield School System in regards to Kindergarten Readiness. I will be doing this weekly over the next month or so. Mrs. Glaspie represented **HWG** at the recent KITE meeting (Key Initiatives to Early Education) and Mrs. Barrett and I attended a meeting with fellow Kite members for Kindergarten Readiness.

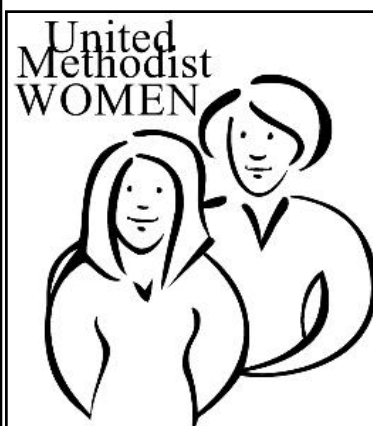
As you can tell, we are all quite busy. Re-accreditation takes lots of time and effort, but we are working on the necessary requirements in order to have all the preparation completed by the end of December. Candidacy papers will be filed by January 31, 2010, and we’ll wait to hear from the Academy as to a date the validator will join us. We have been told they might call within a week of receiving our paperwork or it could be near the end of a 3- month period. Whatever the date.....we will be ready.

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

Until next time. . .

Enfield High classmates reunite 70 years later.....If you happened to read this article in the JI from October 22, you would have seen. . . “In 1942, shortly after graduating, Charles Comparetto of Enfield was drafted into the Army’s 88th Division, but didn’t have to go overseas. Comparetto, 87, said he was ‘in the Glee Club, the orchestra and the operetta in high school.’” Congratulations, Chick, for being one of the fifteen remaining classmates from a class of 150 to reunite 70 years later!!

United Methodist Women — Linda Borio



UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

November 10, 2009, 7:30 pm

PROGRAM: Native American Study

Join us as we hear Bobbi Bragan and Jackie Michaud give a synopsis of the 2008 School of Christian Mission General Issue Study on “Native Americans.” Today, many folks think of the “casinos” here in Connecticut when we think of our Native Americans. That is an injustice to our Native people. This study opens our minds and hearts to the history of our Native people of the United States.

Our World Thank offering will be taken this evening.

Chair: Linda Borio

Hostesses: Jackie Michaud, Becky Michaud, Bobbi Bragan

Cookie Walk — Linda Borio

We’re hoping you will gear up for our **Annual Cookie Walk on December 12**. As you begin baking for the Holidays, please bake an extra three or more dozen; put the cookies in a freezer zip-lock bag and place in your freezer until December. If you don’t have room in your freezer, you may use one of the freezers at the church, but be sure to **mark them for the cookie walk**. As in the past, I’m requesting that you list the ingredients too. Specifically, anything with **nuts or almond flavoring** needs to be noted; plus, if you are baking cookies that are **gluten free**, that should be noted, too.

The word is really getting around that “Hazardville Methodist Church has the **BEST** cookie walk in the area.” Every other cookie walk seems to offer only 2 to 4 varieties of cookies; namely chocolate chip and oatmeal raisin. We had folks lined up at the door last year, and the line went way down the hall, past the Pastor’s study, waiting for the Cookie Walk to begin! People appreciate the fact that we allow folks to **choose** the cookies they put into the decorated can. (We don’t prepackage the cookies.) This year we hope to offer cookies by the pound and sell them in a flat foil container with a clear top. I have requested a donation from Big Y; we’ll see what we get. Since I had some cans left over from last year, I plan to put those out as well, and those cans will still be sold for \$5.00 each. If anyone has some extra Christmas wrapping paper, I could use some to cover some of the cans collected this year.

So, please plan to bake some cookies for our Cookie Walk. We need to continue being different, and it helps if you bake “something special” for our Cookie Walk table. Feel free to call and let me know what kind of cookies you will be baking. Our “gluten free” table was a big success last year, and several women told me they would be bringing friends in 2009 who require gluten free cookies, either for themselves or a family member. Last year, we had over **52 varieties** of cookies. . .let’s keep them coming!

Help is needed the morning of the sale so we can get the cookies displayed. We will begin working on the cookie display at **8:30 AM**. The actual sale will begin later in the morning to coincide with the Christmas Tea. If you are able to come and help on Saturday morning, December 12, please call me and let me know. My phone number is 749-6727, and my email address is lhb505@aol.com.

Kids-4-Mission — Jackie and Becky Michaud



During October, kids and their parents have been very busy cleaning out the Gilbert Pierce room so it can be cleaned and painted and turned into a room for the youth of our church to call their Church HOME. Many of you remember meeting and playing in this room. Stop down and reminisce. We are looking for a few items for the room, so please search your attics and basements. We would like some mirrors and some picture frames we can paint and hang on the walls. Let us know what you have that we might be able to use.

We have been busy collecting crayons for Kids-4-Mission. This is an on-going project, so every time we meet we do something different. We have been decorating containers we can use to collect crayons in, peeling off the paper and sorting by colors. It is keeping us busy. Children are bring in crayons from home that are broken, or crayons they used at a local restaurant that were broken, etc.

We made and sent cards to Doris Mack to let her know we are thinking of her and that we all miss her. Copies of the cards are hanging on the bulletin board in the former Playland area. If you have a chance, stop by and view them.

Our Thursday night group painted pumpkins for some of our shut-ins. They had fun, and I know of at least one of our church family who called to let me know how much that pumpkin brightened her day. We had some friends of our Kids group help us deliver them. We would like to thank them for helping us.



Enfield Community Chorus Concert at HUMC 33rd Annual Christmas Concert

Saturday, December 5, 7 PM, Sunday, December 6, 4 PM

Begin the Advent season listening to lovely secular Christmas carols, including *I Saw Three Ships*, *Winter Wonderland* and Felix Mendelssohn's only carol, "*Hark the Herald Angels Sing*," as well as a wonderful cantata, "*Night of Miracles*" by Lloyd Larsen.

Ginny Davis is the Director, Juliane LaRocca will be the accompanist and will also direct one number, while her mother, Jane LaRocca, will play. The narrator will be Rev. Cathy Faber of the Enfield Congregational Church.

There are no reservations, tickets or admission fee, but a free-will offering will be accepted. Refreshments will be served following the concert.

Don't miss this uplifting event!!

Heritage Notes—A Page from our History — Alice Allen

History of the Christian Endeavor Society
of Hazardville, Connecticut
1888-1913
by Mrs. William W. Gordon
(continued from last month)

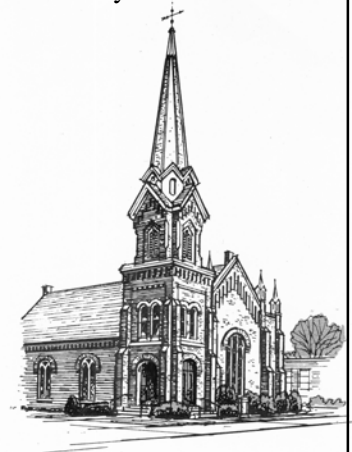
For several years, the Society have subscribed for the Christian Endeavor World, which has been passed to the leader of each meeting and has proved helpful.

Previously to 1912 we had done nothing along missionary lines as a society, but at that time a temporary missionary committee was appointed to suggest lines of giving, and at their suggestion twenty dollars were sent for the support of an untainted child of a leper in a mission home. Later this committee made still further suggestions which were acted upon. The Society aided the Bridgman Memorial School at Shanghai, China, which is under the direction of two Mount Holyoke graduates. There were also made twenty "comfort bags" which were sent to the Sailor's Rest, Boston, there to be given to sailors. Each bag contained a friendly letter, a Testament and a few articles for the sailor's convenience. There is now a permanent Missionary Committee.

There was started a pretty custom on Christmas 1910, which we hope will long live. Baskets of fruit were carried to the sick and shut-ins and Christmas songs were sung at each house visited. It was good to be alive that night. The regular Y.P.S.C.E. prayer meeting was omitted and the preaching service was begun earlier, so that an early start could be made. The red and white baskets, filled with beautiful fruit, with a Christmas card and sprig of holly tied to the handle of each basket surely presented a gay and attractive appearance. My Tyrie, the pastor, gave a cordial invitation to all those who would like to accompany the young folks on their rounds of the village, to do so, and the number that first night was about sixty, led by our pastor and a president. Torches were used to light our way. What a surprise it was to everyone and how faces lighted up as the basket was presented, and the song was heard! The thought of being remembered is a joy to everyone, but surely they who gave received the most joy. As the crowd left each house with united cry of "I wish you a Merry Christmas" everyone felt as though the Christ Himself had accepted the gift. Thirteen were remembered with baskets that Christmas, - others with a song only. The next year the list had lengthened, partly because the lines of remembering were not quite so rigid - - better expand than shrink. The baskets were most beautiful, the weather just right, the marching crowd filled with the true spirit of the task, and again all who went felt a warmth of heart good to realize. One Christmas the gift was changed to a pot of blossoming cyclamen, and a folder containing that hymn of courage, "How Firm a Foundation" and a list of the members of the society.

The membership in 1913, at the time of the 25th anniversary, was sixty-five with nine absent members; that is, those who are temporarily away from home. The prayer meetings for many years have been especially helpful and inspiring, being characterized by a spirit of worship.

See Heritage on page 11.



Heritage— continued from page 10.

I would not fail to give a word of appreciation for our pastor. He is one of us. There is much in that short sentence. I could speak of his counsels, his open appreciation of his young people, his helpfulness in every department, his personal interest in each one, - - but I think I will just leave it – “He is one of us.” I would like to take a look ahead, but that would be prophecy and not history. I will simply say, “We intend to go forward.”

This concludes Mrs. William W. Gordon’s History of The Christian Endeavor Society

Thank you.....Thank you....Thank you!!!

The **Harvest Fair** held October 23 and 24 was our biggest, best, most profitable event since we started it several years ago. And we have all of YOU to thank.....everyone who pitched in to set up, price, sell, collect money, and even donate additional funds ...we had bakers, candy makers, jelly, jam, pickle and chutney makers....we sold jars of homemade soups, and served hot dogs for lunch. People came by to browse our white elephant treasures, crafts, and costume jewelry. Everything everyone did helped us make a profit of over \$2500. Again, we just want to say. . .**thank you...thank you...thank you!!** See you next year!!

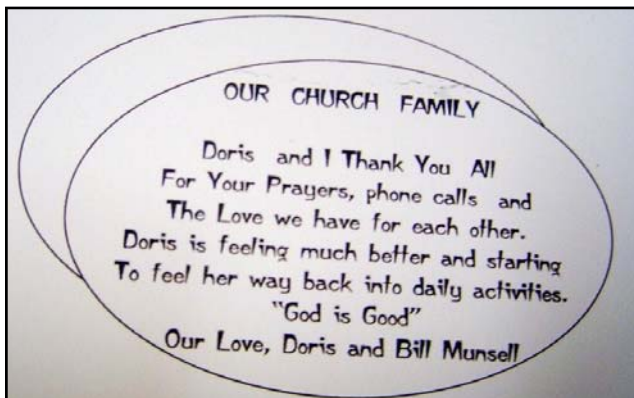
Pat Owens and Janette Burkhardt



Macy’s Shop for a Cause

Thanks to all who participated in Shop for a Cause on October 17. At HUMC we sold 64 tickets for \$5 each. Since participating non-profit organizations keep all the money collected, it means we earned \$320. Plan now to participate next year. Thanks again.

Elaine Folkers



To my church family -

Thanks for all the cards, phone calls and offers of help during my recent setback. Your prayers and concerns were greatly appreciated. I’m better than I was....ambulatory and making slow progress....the power of prayer is amazing. Thanks again.

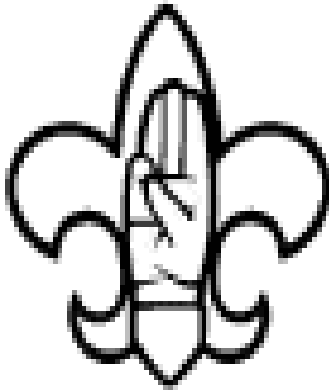
Lois Osier



To that wonderful volunteer production staff...Heartfelt thanks to the gracious, considerate production staff whose nimble fingers made short work of our October issue of Steeple Tidings. . . Pat Owens and Nancy Dyer. . .

with special thanks to Don Niemann for all his support and help.

Troop 108— *Bill Munsell*



As per usual Troop 108 is on the move with two campouts requiring back-packing and hiking in to camp sites, Nipmuck trail in Ashford, CT, and wilderness tent camping at Breach Neck State Forest in Union, CT. Twenty-six scouts attended these weekends that gave the scouts the opportunity needed to qualify for the hiking merit badge and other skills that are needed for enjoying campout, especially if it happens to rain. Rain doesn't bother scouts, but, believe me, it's more fun if you are dry.

The scouts holding leadership positions are elected two times a year so that they can complete the advancement leadership requirements. This was done by ballot at the October meeting. Elected leaders can only be elected to fill the same position for two consecutive six months so that more scouts will have the opportunity to bring their leadership qualities and ideas to troop meetings.

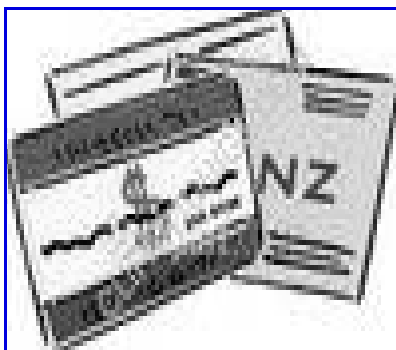
The top leadership position is Senior Patrol Leader with Ryan Galovich starting his second term; next is assistant senior patrol leader, Adam Macsata, and scribe, Brendan Fahey. Patrol leaders are Paul Gross, Beaver Patrol, Tyler Nong, Eagle Patrol, Chad Fortune Scorpion Patrol, Brian Sackett, Bob Cat Patrol and Tim Valletta, Indian Patrol. Troop 108 has a nice group of leaders.

I see we have a new Assistant Scoutmaster, Jim O'Neil. He attended summer camp with his son Daniel,— a great experience— that he must have enjoyed. Welcome aboard, Jim! Let the fun begin. With such a large troop, adult leaders are so valuable. One never knows what talents a person may have. Again the troop and the Church welcome you aboard

Over the summer Rob Hammond completed his Eagle Project with his helpers and family doing a super painting job on the small building the church uses for storage, etc. The larger church building needed some repairs that were done. The new red and white paint looks great. I've had several comments from church people on the fine job. These buildings are of great value to the Church, The fresh coat of paint will help preserve them for a long time. Thanks again Rob for the fine job; your leadership shines.

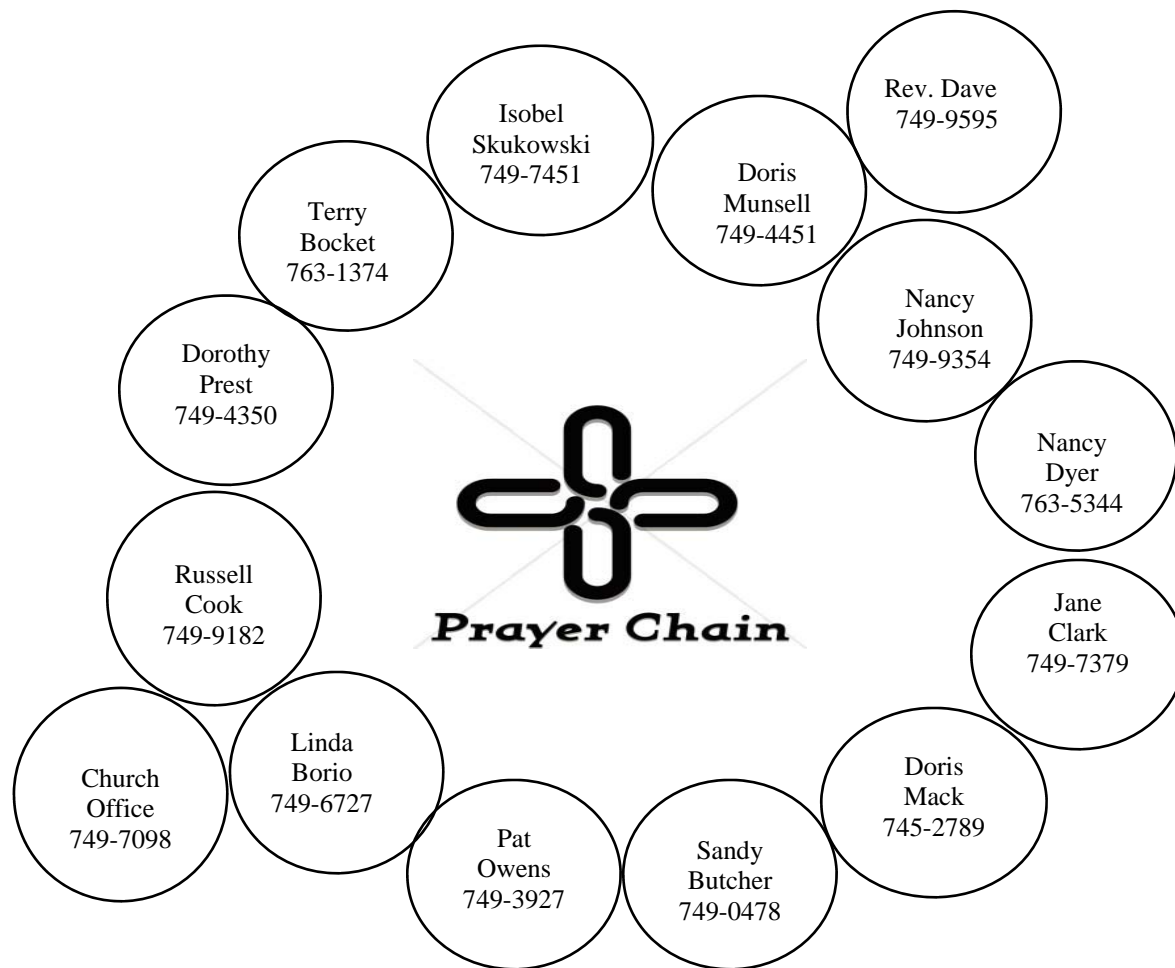
Smile when you want to. Cry when you need to. Laugh whenever possible.

REMINDER. . .



Our Scrip program is alive and well. There are hundreds of places to choose from. Orders will be taken each Sunday and submitted once we reach the \$500 minimum combined total in order to save on postage charges. These cards are great for birthdays, anniversaries, and, of course for Christmas gifts.

See Pat Owens in fellowship hall after worship for more information. Remember, all proceeds for the purchase of these cards go to the HUMC. Pick up an order form on the board in Fellowship Hall.



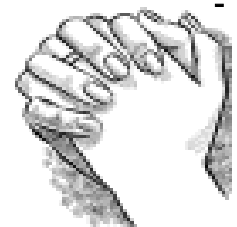
Please keep the following in your prayers:

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

Roger Avery, Berta Clawson, David DiBattista, Louise Heald,
Molly Johnson, Mary Nickerson, Christine Riley,
Eric Sackett, Patti Samolewicz, Peg Smith, Ron Uricchio,
Anthony Vannucci, Asa Waller, David Weatherby, Gloria Wages, Todd Wyatt

Pray also for these Members:

Beryl Comparetto at Parkway, 1157 Enfield Street, Enfield, CT
Corice and Joseph Swart at Parkway, 1157 Enfield St., Enfield, CT
Babs Baker, Redstone Rehab Facility, 135 Benton Dr, E.Longmeadow, MA
Mildred Doreski at Blair Manor, 612 Hazard Avenue, Enfield, CT
Arthur Dahlstrand, 33 Homestead Avenue, Warren, RI 02885-2914
Hildegard Waller, Suffield House, 1 Canal Road, Suffield, CT



Children's Page

Attitude of GRATITUDE

The Thanksgiving holiday reminds us that we should always be grateful for the many blessings God provides. Keep a special gratitude journal, and write in it often to keep an attitude of gratitude.




What you need:

- Paper (8 1/2" x 11" sheets, plain or lined)
- Stapler
- Stickers
- Crayons or markers

What you do:

1. Fold several sheets of paper in half.
2. Staple the pages together on the folded crease.
3. Write "Attitude of Gratitude" on the cover.
4. Decorate your journal with stickers and drawings.
5. On the inside cover, write "Give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus" (1 Thessalonians 5:18, NIV).
6. Use your journal daily as a reminder of your blessings and as a guide for when you say prayers.

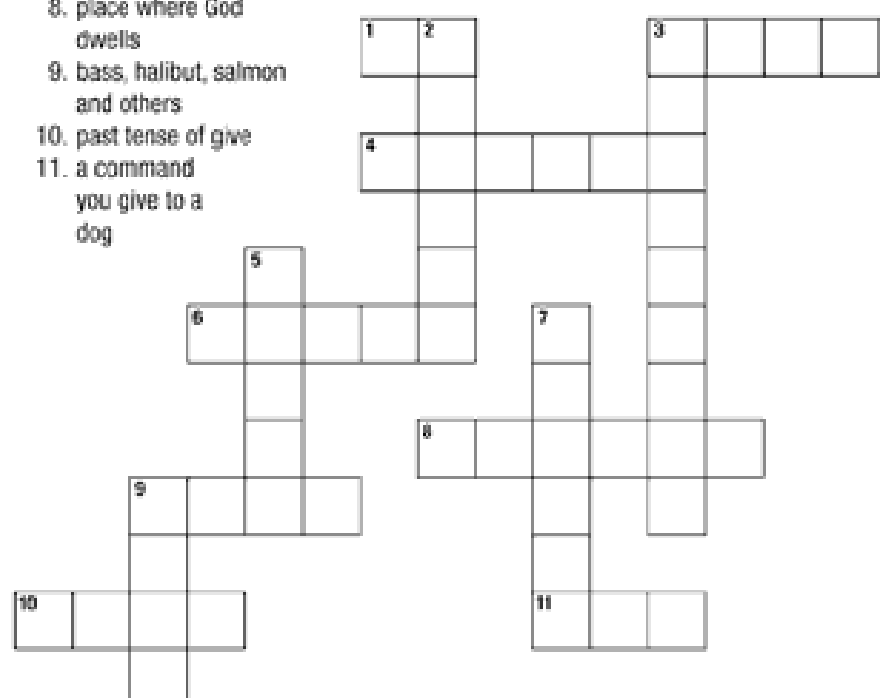


He gave thanks

This Thanksgiving, you may share a special meal with family and friends. Do you remember the time when Jesus shared a meal with thousands of people and gave thanks?

Use the clues to find important words from Matthew 14:19 (NIV).

<p>Across</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. opposite of down 3. opposite of up 4. more than one loaf 6. penniless 8. place where God dwells 9. bass, halibut, salmon and others 10. past tense of give 11. a command you give to a dog 	<p>Down</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. another name for humans 3. twelve of Jesus' closest friends 5. what a lawnmower cuts 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 7. _____ giving 9. odd number after 4
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Across: 1. up, 3. down, 4. loaves, 6. broke, 8. heaven, 9. fish, 10. gave, 11. sit
Down: 2. people, 3. disciples, 5. grass, 7. thanks, 9. five