



North Haven Congregational Church, UCC

The Window

September 2020

FROM THE
PASTOR 

Displaced, but Not Lost

In his second letter to the Corinthians, the apostle Paul proclaims,
“For it is the God who said ‘Let light shine out of darkness,’ who has shone in our hearts to give us the light of the knowledge of God in the face of Jesus Christ.”

Then Paul goes on to say:

“We are afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed but not driven to despair; persecuted but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed....”

Paul is describing his experience as an apostle – one who has accepted the mission to share the gospel of Jesus Christ with a hurting, and frequently inhospitable and even dangerous, world.

I thought of this passage as I reflected on the experience of the COVID19 shutdown. So many of our routines came to a halt on March 13 ...staying home from school, from work, from sports, from shopping or going out to dinner, staying home from church. In the beginning there was much fear and anxiety. So many people were very sick, hospitals were near capacity, and many people were dying. Five months later we are still disrupted and displaced; encouraged to begin to go out and return to some of our routine, but hesitant and frustrated. There is still danger from the virus, and so there are precautions, and discomfort, and lots of anxiety. We hope for, and look for, a return to NORMAL, and it seems to recede toward the horizon, moving ever farther away as we wait and watch.

Our situation is not what Paul was describing, and it would be distortion to draw such a comparison. It is Paul’s description of the experience of suffering which catches my attention: the reality of feeling

afflicted, perplexed, persecuted, and struck down, but NOT crushed, or despairing, or forsaken or destroyed.

I think of one of those childhood inflated figures with the weighted base; pushed or punched, the figure swayed and fell over, yet always rose upright again. I think of trying to hold a big beachball under the water – buoyancy is powerful!

The place between being afflicted and ending up crushed, being struck down and ending up destroyed, can be place of grace. It is a place where, if we wait and watch, we may recognize God’s presence. God is with us in our affliction and disruption and worry, and grace will pick us up again, and encourage and empower us to carry on.

God is shining in our hearts, giving the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ. We are displaced, but not lost.

Peace to you, Scott

Back to School?

For students and teachers of all ages, this time of year normally brings feelings of nervous anticipation and excitement about going back to school. Students ask themselves questions like, who are my teachers and what will they be like? Will my friends be in my classes? What will we be learning? What projects will we be doing in class this year? How much homework will I get? When is the last day of school? Similarly, teachers ask themselves, who are my students and what will they be like? What will I be covering this year? How much is in the budget for me to spend on supplies and materials? When is the last day of school? However, this year an entirely new set of uneasy questions are being asked and at the top of the list are, will we be physically going back to school and will we be safe or will school be virtual/computer based?

“Safe” is a very subjective word. Each individual has a very different way to define what being safe means to themselves, their family and their loved ones. The debate over what safe means and how to keep everyone safe during this pandemic is very sensitive and everyone has very strong opinions on what should or should not be done in relation to schools opening and the virus. There are so many factors involved with this reopening decision, such as, bussing to and from school for AM and PM classes, class sizes with recommended distancing, sanitizing and protective equipment just to name a few. I do feel bad for superintendents, administrators and anyone in the decision making process because whatever the decision is, it is almost impossible to please everyone. Most public schools in the state are starting this school year as a hybrid plan where students will start the year either going 2-3 days per week or only a portion of the day (AM or PM). North Haven is starting with 2 days per week in school and 3 days virtual/distant learning. Wallingford, where I teach wood shop, is starting with 2 to 3 days per week (depending on a rotating schedule) with morning and afternoon sessions and the other days as distant or virtual learning. I am happy that we are returning in some capacity. I had hoped that it would be 5 days per week but I understand the hesitation. However, one of my biggest concerns, besides the lack of socialization for students, is all the screen time that comes with virtual computer based learning.

Most of us practically live on our electronic devices which include smartphones, smart watches, tablets, laptops and desktops. Even before this pandemic hit us, physical human interaction had taken a backseat to facetime, texts, instant messages, posts and emails. As adults, we willingly take on all the extra digital interaction for our jobs or because it is our choice to do so. Like I stated before, my concern is with excessive digital interaction for the young developing brains of our children. I have read a lot about the negative effects of too much screen time for children. I know in the past they said the same about TV, but this is very different. TV, is generally a one way signal. They broadcast and you watch. Where the internet is endlessly interactive and addictive. It is designed to be so. For example, when was the last

time you went to YouTube and watched just 1 video? That is like opening up a bag of potato chips and eating just one. Most of us do not have the self-discipline to do that.

The amount of daily screen time that children and young adults average nationally is astounding. (Look it up). The numbers are jaw dropping and the statistics listed were taken before the virus hit us. I understand that this moment in time that we are experiencing is unprecedented for all of us. Virtual or distant learning was necessary and, for the most part, effective by keeping students engaged in learning even in a limited capacity. For the most part, teachers tried their best to facilitate and engage their students to the best of their ability. It was a true challenge and most stepped up to the plate. Many parents were thrust into an uncomfortable role of teaching their own children unfamiliar school subjects while trying to work from home (if they were fortunate to keep their jobs). Speaking for myself, the period after the schools closed was a difficult and stressful time. Trying to learn what is happening with the virus, what safety protocols should be demonstrated, finding meaningful activities and topics to engage my students, making sure my girls are on task and not losing my mind in the process. I am sure you can relate if you had similar circumstances.

I understand that I personally, have very little control over the decisions that are made about my school or the school my girls attend, but I can control how much screen time my girls have overall. However, virtual learning may consist of anywhere from 4-6 hours of screen time each day, several times per week, for an indefinite amount of time. That is very concerning and troubling to me. In my opinion, nothing can ever replace in person teaching, learning and being in the classroom (or in my case the Wood Shop). I pray for the day that school resumes in full session. I miss interacting with students, my peers, parents and yes, even administrators. I know I am not alone when I say, I miss being social and ask for God’s help to get all of us through this.

I am excited and looking forward to going back this year. I understand the risk and accept whatever

outcome that may happen to me personally. I am willing to wear whatever protective protocol that is required as long as I am able to be physically in front of a class, teaching. My girls are nervous about going back but not because of the virus. They understand that there is a “sickness” (their word for the virus) that we need to be aware of and that we need to protect ourselves to the best of our ability. They are nervous the same way we were nervous about going back to school. Asking themselves the questions I listed at the beginning. My family recognizes the risk involved in going back to school during this pandemic and we are more than willing to send our girls, the most precious gifts that we have been blessed with, because we understand the importance and necessity of physical, in-person education on their development into well rounded, productive individuals.

Finally, I would like to tie in the reopening of Church worship since this parallels school reopening. The article that Chris Corcoran submitted for July/August covered this eloquently and if you have not had a chance to read it, I suggest you do. Our Re-Opening Team has been working diligently to try to accommodate anyone who would be interested in attending the return of in-person church service. It has been a challenge to meet all state and CDC guidelines, but I believe that those who are ready should feel safe with the precautions that are set in place. I completely understand if you are not ready, but for those of us who are, I look forward to seeing you in-person together in the presence of God.

Damon Quinn
Moderator



Ministry Coordinator for Children



Just as our communities across the country continue to face a "new normal" in the midst of a pandemic, The families of North Haven Congregational Church continue to find new ways to maintain a connection to one another without in-person worship, church school, Bible Study, and meetings.

At the center of that survival is our strong faith in God. Although that faith may falter at times, we strive to nurture our faith and to feed our spirituality, thereby growing in our relationship with God. Accomplishing that task in the midst of a pandemic requires inspiration, creativity and flexibility. North Haven Congregational Church has met and continues to meet that challenge by finding new ways to keep connected.

Since mid-March, when In-person worship, Church school and meetings were suspended, North Haven Congregational Church moved to a "new normal" of live (virtual) worship. Our children, along with their parents, participated in weekly worship from the safety of their homes. Additionally, via email, each family was provided with a weekly church school lesson adapted from our lectionary-based curriculum. Each lesson included a scripture reading and/or Bible story, an opening prayer, a closing prayer, a list of questions to provide a platform for discussion and an activity.

Now, six months later, as we approach a new Church school year and continued uncertainty about when full, In-person worship and Church school can resume, the children and their families will continue to worship from their homes. However, beginning with the Fall semester, the children will have opportunities to interact with their Church school siblings via Zoom. Our Zoom church school is just one of several opportunities to be utilized to keep our children connected to one another, to their church family and to God; to grow in their faith.

The exact format of our "new normal" church school is yet to be decided. When the Faith Formation Team meets on August 30, decisions will be made regarding Rally Day, Church School and Bible Sunday. However, those decisions will be based upon discussions with and suggestions made by parents. Of course, at the center of our "new normal" church school will be to maintain the health and safety of our children and their families, while still encouraging and providing them with a nurturing environment to grow in their spirituality, their faith and connection to God.

Blessings,
Karlee Etter
Ministry Coordinator for Children



Church Family News

Birthdays: Martin Benassi 09/06, Linda Lacobelli 09/06, Melissa DeLuca 09/06, Colin Studley 09/06, John Masnato 09/08, Sally Pallatto 09/09, Finn Cabelus 09/09, Avery Cretella 09/10, AnnMarie Czajkowski 9/10, Ryan Petrucci 09/11, Aaron Weiss 09/12, Flo Coulston 09/15, Kim Coughlin 09/16, Denise Adinolfi 09/17, Elia Creston 09/17, Carol Lacobelli 09/21, Greg Brenner 09/22, Patience Benassi 09/23, Jennifer Coulston 09/23, Linda Simonson 09/23, Brooklyn Mastracchio 09/23, Lexie Cooper 09/23, Raj Rose 9/26, Barbara Scheidecker 09/27, Jennifer Russo 09/27, Jillian Russo 09/27, Sarah Struk 09/28, David Bellonio 09/29, Stephen Baraquin 09/29, Joyce Manzo 09/30, Mark Olewnik 09/30.

Anniversaries Carl & Lillian Flodquist 09/05, David & Nancie Estep 09/06.

Weddings: Cassie Noel and Sean Mikolinski were married at Peter's Rock Park on July 27. Congratulations!

Joint Confirmation Class 2019-20

This is an invitation to those interested in taking part in the Confirmation Class this year. The Confirmation Class will be a joint program with Spring Glen Church UCC in Hamden, and United Church on the Green, and First Presbyterian Church in New Haven. It will be a two-year program for 8th & 9th graders, although older youth are welcome to participate. The class will be led by the pastors, and will likely meet primarily on Sunday afternoons. The planning for Confirmation, with a move to a largely virtual, online program, is going on now. We will keep you posted! Pastor Scott will reach out to potential confirmands and families in the coming weeks.

OASIS Youth Group Begins in September!

The OASIS Multichurch Youth Group will resume in September, with a largely virtual program. The program brings together youth from Spring Glen United Church of Christ in Hamden, and United Church on the Green, First Presbyterian Church, and Trinity Episcopal Church in New Haven as well as NHCC. The Youth Group activities will be a mix of fellowship and games. Planning is underway, and consideration is being given to occasional small, in-person gatherings.

OASIS Intern Leadership Program for 2020-21

The Intern Leadership Program will continue in the fall, in conjunction with the OASIS Multi-Church Youth Group. This is a leadership training and development program open to youth in grades 9-12. OASIS Intern Leaders will help with planning, set-up and take-down, and program coordination. There is an increasing level of responsibility through high school. This program is intended to provide fellowship and community, and training that will be something to note on your resume and college applications. Contact Scott Morrow, or email Pastor Jack Davidson or Emily McKenna with questions.

NEWS ABOUT REOPENING

Covenant of Gathering of the North Haven Congregational Church UCC

We covenant to work with each other and with our family and friends to keep our community safe and healthy.

We respect other people in the same physical space by wearing a face mask which covers nose and mouth the entire time we are gathered.

We show care for each person who is not from our household by keeping six feet safe distance.

We worship God through prayer and praise, and may speak or hum quietly but will not sing aloud while gathered.

We honor others by staying home if we are not feeling well or may have been exposed, knowing we can worship together whether gathered in person or in spirit.

We covenant to love, respect and care for each other through joyful times and in times of challenge, uncertainty and loss.

We worship as one body united in God's love and we listen together for God's still-speaking voice.

Introducing the ReOpening Team

The ReOpening Team is charged with the task of determining safety guidelines, precautions, and procedures in response to the COVID19 virus. These precautions and procedures will guide the planning for worship and church programming, and the safe, gradual return to in-person worship and church activities. The work of the ReOpening Team is guided by recommendations from the Southern New England Conference, UCC, and guidelines from the State of Connecticut, the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and the Quinnipiack Valley Health District.

The members of the ReOpening Team include:

Carol Amico – Physician Assistant in Infectious Diseases, Yale-New Haven Hospital
Deacon and Choir Member

Susan Compton – Research Scientist, Chief of Molecular and Serological Diagnostics,

Comparative Medicine, Yale University
School of Medicine; Choir Member
Paula Diehl – Elderly Housing Management,
retired;

Julie McGarry – Program Manager, Yale Center
for Emotional Intelligence, Yale University;
experience with data management,

Damon Quinn – Church Moderator; Technology
Education (Shop) Teacher, Dag
Hammarckjold Middle School, Wallingford;
Church School parent

Bill Rose – 4th Grade Teacher, Columbus
Elementary School, Bridgeport; Church
School parent

Scott Morrow – Pastor

The ReOpening Plan

The suspension of in-person worship, in-person activities, and in-person building use by community groups remains in place currently. The Church Office is open daily, and Julie Sweickert, Scott Morrow and Todd Swarney are working regularly in the building. Karlee Etter and Jeff Hutchins work in the building occasionally. The Food Pantry is in operation, with food distribution happens on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays from 10-11am. Sue and John Tibor, Nancy Mahoney, Wendy Glynn and Darlene Rogers assist in the food pantry as regular volunteers.

Worship services are livestreamed online on Sunday mornings with two or three people in the sanctuary. It has been decided that the online worship service will continue indefinitely, even as in-person attendance at worship resumes. **In-person worship will NOT begin on Sept. 13;** we hope that in-person worship might begin later in September, providing all precautions are in place, we have the safety supplies required, and a Safety Team has been recruited and trained.

The top priority for the ReOpening Team has been planning and preparation for in-person worship. There is also interest among church members to return to in-person activities in the church, such as meetings or fellowship groups. Other options for church gatherings should be considered first, with in-

person gathering at the church as a final option. Community groups are also interested in returning to in-person meetings or gatherings in the church. The Team feels it is important for in-person worship to begin first, and to take place several times successfully, before other in-person use of the building resumes. The guidelines and precautions for in-person gatherings in the building other than worship will be similar to those required for worship, with additional consideration of simultaneous gatherings, total capacity, and cleaning requirements. The Team hopes church groups and community groups can begin in-person gatherings, in accordance with precautions, in October.

Current precautions in the building include wearing mask and keeping safe, six-foot distance, as well as regular handwashing. The ReOpening Team has developed a list of screening questions addressing symptoms of illness, possible exposure to others, and travel outside of CT which will be used by all who enter the building.

The ReOpening Team conducted a survey among the congregation to learn of members' desire for in-person worship and activities, desired safety precautions, and level of comfort. The survey shows general high satisfaction with the online worship service. A small group is interested and comfortable returning to in-person worship with the precautions the ReOpening Team has recommended. A larger group is interested in other in-person events combining worship and fellowship, held outdoors at times other than Sunday morning. We will share more details from the survey in coming weeks.

The Team has discussed outdoor events, with seating in safely distanced household clusters, to be held on the north-side lawn, front or south-side lawn, or perhaps in the parking lot. The Team has also discussed a gradual return to in-person worship with clear guidelines and precautions.

The ReOpening Team proposes the gradual resumption of in-person worship in the sanctuary, observing established guidelines and precautions, on one or two Sundays per month, beginning initially

with a group of 16 worshippers, plus Safety Team and worship Leaders. It is our hope that in-person worship can begin in September, provided all safety supplies are in place, and the Safety Team has been formed and trained. Additionally, in consideration of survey responses, the Team recommends that staff and volunteers organize one or two outdoor worship/fellowship events per month, weather permitting, at a time other than Sunday morning.

The Team notes that in-person worship and programming may be suspended in the future in response to a rise in COVID19 cases, in accordance with guidance from the State of CT, Quinnipiack Valley Health District, and the CDC.

Guidelines and Precautions

- Screening questions to be answered by all persons prior to entering the building
- Masks covering nose and mouth to be worn at all times in the building.
- Maintain six-foot safe distance between members of different households
- Hand hygiene including use of hand sanitizer

In-Person Worship in the Sanctuary

- Pre-registration for attendance
- Screening questions and agreement to observe precautions completed in advance
- Screening questions and contact information confirmed upon arrival, and temperature taken
- Safely distanced seating between members of different households.
- Attendees bring a mask and hand sanitizer; masks worn covering nose and mouth at all times
- No passing of offering plates, prayer requests, or communion
- No singing
- No physical contact in greeting
- Ceiling fans off, window fans directed outward
- Plexiglass shields in front of lectern and pulpit

Mission Team News

Chancel Choir to begin on Zoom

Thursday September 10, 2020, 7:00pm



The North Haven Congregational Church Chancel Choir will start its rehearsals this fall on Zoom. We will work on a virtual choir project with some familiar and enjoyable anthems. We will begin each session with warmups and exercises you can do at home. All are welcome!

Distance-Singing options are expanding!

The hymn singing the last few Sundays has featured a wonderful and more robust choir sound! It is very possible to include more people on these recordings without too much stress, and we will start virtual choir anthems using this method. Having a strong “guidance track” will assist in attracting more singers to the virtual choir. All are welcome!



*Let every instrument be tuned for praise!
Let all rejoice who have a voice to raise!
And may God give us faith to sing always:
Alleluia!*

Fundraising during a pandemic

Thank you to all who contributed to the On-line fundraising auction held in July. \$2,317 was raised to support the church budget. Another auction is scheduled for next spring.

This type of auction is the perfect way to raise money during a time when groups cannot gather. Premium items for the auction were donated by church members, and dropped off at the church within a

three-hour window via a drive-by drop-off. Items were placed in Carroll Hall for cataloguing and photographing by the auction manager. The on-line auction was held over a week with bids coming in from bidders in Connecticut, Massachusetts and New York. High bidders picked up their items within a pre-scheduled time frame, again maintaining social distancing. This type of fundraiser limited the number of church members needing to gather and volunteer, and was a perfect fundraiser during a pandemic. The only thing missing was the usual fellowship among a large group of volunteers. In this case the volunteers were a small group: Patience B., Martin B. Martha B. and Priscilla B. Many thanks for all the items donated to the on-line fundraising auction by: Lorraine B., Sally P., Sue Beth H., Bryant M., Sara M., Kim C., Joan B., Beth A., Mary Ellen C., Suzanne L., Nigel L., Nancy M., Michelle L., John T., Sue T., Joyce M., Ted M. Betsey R., Kerry W., Priscilla B., Martha B., Mark B., Martin B., Patience B., Stephanie P., and Carol M. Thank you to Julie S. for her help and support in communications, announcements and logistics.

Another auction is planned for the Spring of 2021. Please start thinking about, and saving items for our next fundraising auction. THANK YOU ALL! You made this auction a success!

A HUGE Thank You!

A great deal of wonderful work has been done in and around the church this summer. We offer our deep thanks to: **John and Sue Tibor and Nancy Mahoney** have helped regularly with distributions from the Food Pantry, and **Darlene Rogers and Wendy Glynn** have shopped regularly to re-supply the Food Pantry. **Priscilla Bradford and Sue Compton** weeded and worked on landscaping. **Mark Bessette and Paul Powers** removed old filing and storage cabinets from the Heath Room and upstairs hallway. **Cathy Welch and Jeff Hutchins** worked on moving things back into the Choir Room and continued cataloguing the music library. **Patience Benassi** arranged and coordinated the fundraising auction, with help from **Martin Benassi, Martha Butterworth, and Priscilla Bradford**. Paul Powers and Mark Bessette are hard at work rebuilding the

stage area downstairs, in order to repurpose Room 5 for use with the Food Pantry. They also trimmed a big hanging branch that was left by the storm at the parsonage. **Thank you, Thank you, Thank you everyone!**

2020 Mission Team Update Form: Due September 11th

As part of the Church's planning for 2020 we are asking all Mission Team Leaders to fill out the Mission Team Update Form (Budget Request) and return it to the Church office by September 11th. If you have any questions, or need the form you can contact, Julie at churchoffice@northhavenucc.org.

Clothing Mission Team

The next clothing drive will be in November. If you are doing closet cleaning, please save your gently used clothing for the Clothing Mission Team. We especially need Men's clothing and larger women's clothing. We will be collecting clothing Thursday November 19, sorting on Friday November 20, and Distributing on Saturday November 21. The distribution will take place at the same time as the Thanksgiving Food Box distribution. The families will be able to pick up their "new" clothes and their holiday food at the same time. If you would like to help with this mission please contact one of the members: Julie Schweickert, Darlene Rogers, Carol Mitchell, and Wendy Glynn. If you have questions or would like to be a team member, let Julie know. Thank you for supporting this important mission.

Season of Generosity

Fall will soon be here and with it our Church's Season of Generosity. Our faith encourages us to enjoy the spirit of joyfulness that comes with giving in all its forms all year round, but during our Season of Generosity, our Church takes the time to emphasize the need for giving time and talents; as well as funds to support our programs, our Mission Teams, our staff, and our Church operations.

As we begin our Season of Generosity this year, please join us in the joyous spirit of the Season, think about how important your contributions of time, talents and treasure are to the continuance of our Church, and please consider contributing to the Church funding as you are able.

Landscaping Mission Team Needs your help

Do you have a couple of hours and want to make a difference in the appearance of the church? The landscape beds around the church are always in need of some weeding, and sticks need picking up. If you are interested, contact Priscilla Bradford (203) 468-9090, or just stop by and pull some weeds.

Food Pantry is Low on Specific items:

When donating to the food pantry please consider Coffee, Tea, Juice, Mayonnaise, Jelly, Rice, Potato Mixes, brownie/cake mixes, and Canned Fruit. These items are appreciated by our food clients and we run out often. Thanks for your support.

Covenant to Care Mission Team Backpacks

This year, as with so many things due to the pandemic, the backpack project had to chart a different path. Instead of supplying our DCF children with loaded backpacks we collected gift cards and money for which to buy gift cards. Instead of having 12-14 fully loaded backpacks we provided 42 gift cards, each in an envelope with a picture of a gackpack on the front. Inside was the gift card and a note recognizing how uncertain the time this was for them and sending our best wishes for this school year in whatever form it takes for them. When Brett Stephen, our social worker, picked up the gift cards he said he was expecting the situation for many of their clients to worsen in the very-near future with many of the federal help ceasing. The result of your generosity was 42 gift cards in the amount of \$25 each for a total donation of \$1,050. May our prayers continue for these children who were already in unstable home situations before COVID.



Church Office Resumes Normal Hours

The Church Office is back to normal hours for the program year. The Office is open Monday – Friday from 8:00 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.

Weekly Bible Study ZOOM Returns

We invite all who are interested to a Bible study on Tuesdays evenings. The ZOOM sessions will be about 1 hour, beginning at 6pm. Please watch the Sunday worship bulletin for details, or sign up for an email from Scott. Contact Scott with any questions.

SNEUCC Annual Meeting by ZOOM! The Annual Meeting of the Southern New England Conference, United Church of Christ, will meet in a ZOOM meeting on Saturday, Sept. 26 from 8:30am – 12:30pm. The business will be conducting in two sessions, with a networking breakout session at mid-morning. The Board of Directors Chairperson, Bridge Conference Ministers and Treasurer will speak during the first hour. Three votes are anticipated during the meeting: adoption of modified rules of procedure, election of directors and officers, and election of an Executive Conference Minister. Worship will be interspersed throughout the meeting. For more information, and to register, go to sneucc.org.

Super Saturday Goes Virtual in October!

Members of the new Southern New England of the United Church of Christ will gather by ZOOM on two Saturdays - October 24 and 31. The program will begin at 10am. The keynote speaker is the Rev. Sarah Heath, pastor, author and speaker. Rev. Sarah currently serves as lead-pastor of a re-start congregation – First United Methodist Church of Costa Mesa, CA. This event will offer numerous workshops and learning opportunities. Stay tuned for more program and registration information websites. Speak to Scott Morrow or see www.ctucc.org for more information.

Shred Event – Saturday, Sept. 26

North Haven Lions will be holding a Shred Event on Saturday, September 26th. The Lions Club has been a very generous supporter of our Annual Holiday Food Drives and have donated turkeys for more than 25 years.

NORTH HAVEN LIONS CLUB



SERVING OUR COMMUNITY SINCE 1952

ANNUAL SHRED EVENT

TO BENEFIT NORTH HAVEN FOOD BANKS AND NORTH HAVEN COMMUNITY EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM



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FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION CONTACT NORM JUNIEWIC 203-606-4151

**Fall Cleanup October 24th
from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.**

(Rain date: October 31st)

Come join us on **Saturday morning, October 24th**



to help with our **Annual Fall Cleanup**. Bring whatever tools you may have around the house - leaf blowers, trimmers and rakes. We plan on cleaning out the flower beds, cleaning gutters, trimming the trees, and continue working on the Capital Campaign's landscaping plan.

Women's Fellowship

The news from Women's Fellowship hasn't changed since the July-August Window. The church is still shut down and, unfortunately, right now there are no activities planned. We will keep you updated! In the meantime, do you have any news or stories you would like to share in the next Window (October)? How was your not so normal summer? Any exciting events happen over the summer? Perhaps a funny story to tell! Now that we have not seen each other since the beginning of March and have been unable to share events or happenings with each other, maybe this will be a way to reconnect! You are not obligated to write anything, only if you would like to! Simply send an email to Cheryl Bogert, our secretary, with what you would like to share, and we will add it to the next Window.



As all of you know, Birthday Parties cannot be celebrated as they were before COVID! This was true for Ellie Harple—this, her 90th year! A birthday celebration was planned by her family and was to

have taken place the weekend before her birthday. Because of COVID, it was canceled! Ellie, as you may or may not know, was very active in Women's Fellowship for many years and was a true leader serving in many capacities; she made sure things were done and done correctly! This Birthday was a special one for Ellie and members of the Women's Fellowship decided to show Ellie how much she is loved and appreciated! On Monday, August 17, 22 cars lined up in the church parking lot, all decorated with streamers, balloons, signs, painted windows, and so much more! Pastor Scott, carrying his walking stick and decked out in his top hat and sash that read "Second In Command," was the Parade Marshall. Nancy Mahoney led the parade on its route to Ellie's house. Rob Nielsen waited at Ellie's to capture the entire parade in a video, from starting at the church to all the cars as they passed, with occupants honking horns and waving and shouting to Ellie and Kathy, seated in the driveway of their house! It was an amazing, fun event! Ellie of course was thrilled and her smile showed it! Part of the excitement of the evening was seeing everyone from church all in one place again! There were masks and plenty of social distancing. Hoping and praying that birthdays and other events will be back to some sort of normal soon, and we can once again all be together! Stay safe, stay well, happy fall!

Dot Pierce
President, Women's Fellowship

To the members of the NHCC

Thank you so very much for the surprise birthday parade. I can't believe how many people came to help me celebrate! We can hardly move in the house because of all the balloons! I am so blessed to be a part of this wonderful church. I send my love to all. God bless everyone.

Ellie Harple

Monetary Appeal:

Our appeal in the July-August Window to help replenish funds for the Women's Fellowship because our fundraisers had to be canceled is ongoing. Some members have made donations and we are very thankful for their generosity. The Executive Board has had to reevaluate our giving and has cut back for

the time being. We will review our financial situation regularly, and we hope to be able to continue our giving as usual as soon as we are able. If you would like to make a donation to the Women's Fellowship, please make your check out to NHCCWF and send it to the church office. Thank you! Every little bit helps!
Carol Mitchell
Treasurer, Women's Fellowship

Men's Fellowship

The men's group held two Zoom Meetings in August, on the 1st and 15th, and both virtual get-togethers attracted eight men to them. Five men (Jim Bennett, Joe DeLuca, Tim Peiffer, Steve Simonson, and John Tibor) were present at both assemblies; joined by Martin Benassi, Rev. Scott Morrow, and Peter Struck on the 1st; and by Mark Bessette, Bryant Munson, and Rob Nielsen on the 15th.

As we mentioned last time, we will continue to meet via Zoom throughout the summer, and our next two online conclaves are scheduled for September 5th and 19th. I hope that more than eight men will choose to join us going forward. Isn't it ironic that between twelve and twenty men were able to be present in the church kitchen on a Saturday morning at 7:00 am, yet only half that number find it convenient to log in, from the comfort of their own homes, to a computer screen, i-pad, or smart phone at 8:00 am? What am I missing here?

It's great being able to stay in touch with each other, and we continue to be grateful to Joe D. for using his Yale Zoom Account to keep us connected.

Lastly, I again thank the many men in our church family, be they active members of our men's group or not, who have made monetary donations to support the Food Pantry. Despite very limited pantry hours, the church is giving away more foodstuffs than ever before, so each and every contribution received is greatly appreciated.

Jim Bennett
Secretary, Men's Fellowship

Save These Dates

Saturday, Sept. 26 – SNEUCC Annual Meeting
ZOOM 8:30am-12:30pm
Saturdays, Oct.24 and 31 – Super Saturday
ZOOM 10am

PRAYER REQUESTS

In this month's *Window* we continue to list the names of persons for whom we pray in our worship each Sunday. Please add these special people to your prayers at home. Watch the *Window* each month for changes in this list.

In Our Prayers This Month are: Heather Purcell, Ona & Sam Gott, Ben & Cole Purcell, Heidi Welch, Mary Cestaro, Tim Peiffer, David Bellonio, Marlene Bellonio, Stefan McKosky, Rose Monaco, Sabrina Selmer, and Linda Shannon.

PASTORAL VISITS IN HOSPITAL

Pastoral visits in the hospital are generally not possible during our current COVID19 situation. Telephone visits for prayer and comfort are perhaps the best, though certainly less than ideal, substitute. Please contact Julie or Scott if you anticipate a trip to the hospital or unexpectedly find yourself hospitalized, so that Scott can respond.

HOMEBOUND MEMBERS

We are livestreaming our worship services on Sunday mornings, which allows us to worship together even though we cannot gather in the sanctuary. We continue to celebrate Communion on the first Sunday of the month, encouraging members to participate from home with their own bread and juice, or substitutes.

If you are unable to watch the Church service online, we will be happy to celebrate this Sacrament with you over the telephone. Please call the church office at 203-239-5691 to make an appointment that would be convenient for you.

CARDS & LETTERS

Below are some of our church members who are not always able to be present for worship on Sunday mornings. We keep in touch with them through visitation such as home Communion and gifts of holiday flowers. We invite you to send them a card and include them in your prayers.



Marlene Bellonio
Advanced Nursing & Rehab
169 Davenport Ave. Unit S2,
Rm 205a
New Haven, CT 06519

David Bellonio
Masonicare Health Center
Ramage 6, Rm 616
Wallingford, CT 06492

Lorraine Morehouse
65 Masonic Ave. Apt. 206
Wallingford, CT 06492



Eleanor Norback
7 Adeline Drive
North Haven, CT 06473

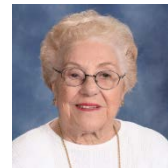


Ellen Robert
520 Pool Rd. Apt. 101
North Haven, CT 06473

Lorraine Burdge
18 Cricket Lane
North Haven, CT 06473



Gloria Santamauro
67 Sackett Point Rd, #401
North Haven, CT 06473

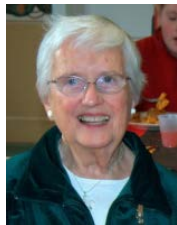


Mary Cestaro
c/o Marilyn Odell
21 Marion Lane
Brewster, MA 02631



Bob & Barbara Scheidecker
59 Grove Road
North Haven, CT 06473

Betsy Gumbart
150 Cook Hill Rd. Unit 7311
Cheshire, CT 06410



Linda Shannon
165 Clintonville Rd, #214,
North Haven, CT 06473



Ellie Harple
176 Pool Road
North Haven, CT 06473



Audrey Tilley
1211 Ashlar Village
Wallingford, CT 06492

Betty Martin
22 Canterbury Rd.
Hamden CT 06514



Jeff Whipple
5124 Avalone Haven Drive
North Haven, CT 06473



September

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3	4	5
		10:00 am Food Pantry Open 1:00 pm Staff Meeting (Zoom) 7:00 ReOpening (Zoom)	10:00 am Food Pantry Open 1:00 pm Staff Meeting (Zoom)	7:00 Chancel Choir (Zoom)	10:00 am Food Pantry Open	7:00am Mens Fellowship (Zoom)
		6:00 pm Bible Study (Zoom)	7:00 ReOpening (Zoom)	7:00 Chancel Choir (Zoom)		
		8	9	10	11	12
9:30am Worship	OFFICE CLOSED (Labor Day)	12:00pm B & G (Zoom)	10:00 am Food Pantry Open		BUDGET REQUESTS FOR 2020 DUE TO OFFICE	
		6:00 Bible Study (Zoom)	1:00 pm Staff Meeting (Zoom)		10:00 am Food Pantry Open	
		7:00 MLB (Zoom)		7:00 Chancel Choir (Zoom)		
		14	15	16	17	18
9:30am Worship	10:00 am Food Pantry Open		WINDOW DEADLINE 10:00 am Food Pantry Open		10:00 am Food Pantry Open	7:00am Mens Fellowship (Zoom)
		6:00 Bible Study (Zoom)	1:00 pm Staff Meeting (Zoom)			
		21	22	23	24	25
9:30am Worship	10:00 am Food Pantry Open	6:00 Bible Study (Zoom)	WINDOW MAILING 10:00 am Food Pantry Open 1:00 pm Staff Meeting (Zoom)			10:00 am Food Pantry Open Conference Annual Meeting
		27	28	29	30	
9:30am Worship	10:00 am Food Pantry Open	6:00 Bible Study (Zoom)	10:00 am Food Pantry Open 1:00 pm Staff Meeting (Zoom)	7:00 Chancel Choir (Zoom)		

The Window

**NORTH HAVEN
CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH**
United Church of Christ
An Open & Affirming Congregation

28 Church Street
North Haven, CT 06473

203-239-5691
203-234-1751 (fax)

Church Office@NorthHavenUCC.org
www.NorthHavenUCC.org

OFFICE HOURS

8:00 am to 2:30 pm

SENIOR PASTOR

Rev. Scott Morrow

MINISTRY COORDINATOR

FOR CHILDREN

Karlee Etter

MUSIC DIRECTOR

Jeffrey Hutchins

ORGANIST

Gary Snowbeck

OFFICE MANAGER

Julie Schweickert

SEXTON

Todd Swarney

WINDOW DEADLINE

September 16, 2020

LECTIONARY READINGS

September 6th (14th Sunday after Pentecost)

Exodus 12:1-14	Psalm 149
Ezekial 33:7-11	Psalm 119:33-40
Romans 13:8-14	Matthew 18:15-20

September 13th (15th Sunday after Pentecost)

Exodus 14:19-31	Psalm 114 or Exodus 15:1b-11, 20-21
Genesis 50:15-21	Psalm 103:(1-7), 8-13
Romans 14:1-12	Matthew 18:21-35

September 20th (16th Sunday after Pentecost)

Exodus 16:2-15	Psalm 105:1-6, 37-45
John 3:10:-4:11	Psalm 145:1-8
Phil 1:21-30	Matthew 20:1-16

September 27th (17th Sunday after Pentecost)

Exodus 17:1-7	Psalm 78:1-4, 12-16
Ezekial 18:1-4, 25-32 Psalm 25:1-9
Phil 2:1-13	Matthew 21:23-32

NORTH HAVEN CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
28 Church Street
North Haven, CT 06473

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