



*North Haven Congregational Church, UCC*  
**The Window**

February 2024



**Winter Excitement**

There is energy and excitement building as we head into February! It's a welcome change after an icy snowstorm and lots of rain.

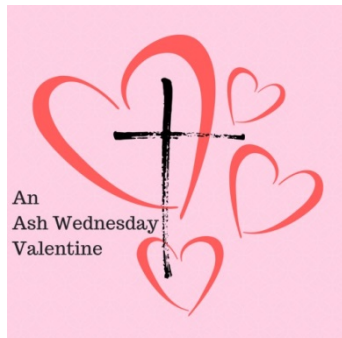
The jazz and vocal groups from North Haven High School will give a Pierpont Concert on Saturday, February 10 at 7pm. This will be the first time both the vocal and jazz groups have given a concert together in the Church since the pandemic. We look forward to a wonderful evening.

On Sunday, February 11, the Women's Fellowship, with help from the Men's Fellowship, will offer a pancake breakfast after church. This will be a great opportunity for conversation, laughter, and good food!

Wednesday, February 14, is both Ash Wednesday and Valentine's Day! No need to choose one or the other - the coincidence may prompt reflection and a new perspective for both occasions. We will have an Ash Wednesday service at noon on the 14th. I encourage you to come to the in-person service if your schedule permits; the service will be livestreamed as well.

I also want to express my appreciation to Dave Nelson, who has stepped up to serve as the Church Sexton on an interim basis. Dave is working on weekday mornings and doing an excellent job!

There is lots of excitement and celebration as we look ahead to February. That will carry us through to spring!



Peace to you,  
Scott Morrow

**“From Bread and Cup To Faith and Giving”**

As you are reading this, we have just held our 2024 Annual Meeting and (hopefully) approved a new church budget and found a new church Moderator. I think it is appropriate that we reflect on what has transpired in both our church and personal lives over the past year as we face the many challenges this year will present.

The Generosity Team (Joan Bennett, Priscilla Bradford, Cheryl Bogert, Mabel Peterson, and Scott Morrow) worked overtime last fall to inform church members of the financial needs of the church and were completely honest in their several communications regarding where the money received comes from (more than two-thirds of it is pledge-driven) and how it is distributed (more than two-thirds of it is earmarked for staff salaries and benefits).

Despite their best efforts, for the first time in my memory and maybe ever, we approved a 2023 church budget on January 29, 2023 with a projected deficit in it of \$10, 346.11 even with an additional contribution from the church's endowment factored in. Not a good way to start a new church year.

Thanks to the hard work of many church members and groups, we were able to increase the use of church facilities by outside groups, conduct several successful fundraisers, limit discretionary expenses wherever possible, and more, the end result being that we were able to turn our projected deficit into a modest profit of \$3,597.02 that we carry forward to 2024.

As the MLB met to prepare a proposed budget for 2024, it faced the same issues and challenges that made the 2023 budgeting process so difficult, the primary one being the lack of growth in our number of pledgers. Anyone who has attended a service in person in the past year surely recognizes that we need to grow our church membership, but we also need to encourage

our current pledgers to give a little more. I also humbly entreat those congregants who currently pledge nothing to please commit to some amount. Additionally, if the more than twenty church members still delinquent in their 2023 pledges do the right thing now and fulfill the remainder of their financial obligations, we can add more than \$8,000 to our carryover balance.

Please recognize that pledge dollars fund more than two-thirds of our annual operating expenses, and that total has been going down for several years now. From 2020 to 2023, for example, total pledges dropped from \$224,176.34 to \$201,216.57. I think everyone will agree that expenses did not follow a similar path.

Remarkably, the MLB, with some great input from the Generosity Team and others, was able to present a balanced budget to the congregation on January 28th. Please recognize, however, that in order to do so, it is counting on everyone to fulfill their pledge obligations in full and to reach its targets in all the other income categories (building contributions, fundraisers, unrestricted gifts, loose offerings, and past due pledges), and it has also tapped the church's endowment funds for more than \$40,000. Continuing this trend (robbing our future to pay for the present) is not a good idea and unsustainable in the long term, but it's become our norm in recent years to bridge the gap between church pledge revenues and expenses.

2024 has the potential to be a very good one for North Haven Congregational Church. We begin the year with a wonderful staff in place, complemented by a committed and talented choir and a small but dedicated core of church members willing to perform the necessary weekly worship tasks and significant mission team responsibilities.

What will make 2024 an even better one will be YOUR personal involvement in church affairs, be it as a Deacon, a Greeter, a Coffee Hour Host, a Mission Team Member (you pick your interest), or a New Member Sponsor. Please try to become more involved this year. NHCC needs you!

Jim Bennett  
MLB Member and Clerk of the Church

### Special Christmas Collections

A Special Thank You to everyone who contributed to the three special Christmas Collections this year! These collections are part of our church tradition, and your generous donations are greatly appreciated.

The Christmas Fund is a fund administered by the UCC to assist retired UCC ministers who need financial assistance. Many of the older UCC pastors have small pensions, so it is particularly important for the conference to have these funds available to help them. This year our church raised \$1,223 for this special purpose.

The Poinsettia Fund pays for the beautiful poinsettias that decorate the sanctuary during the Christmas season. After Christmas, many of them are given to bereaved members of the congregation and brought to church members who are no longer able to attend services. After paying for the plants, remaining funds are available for the MLB to replenish the Pastor's Discretionary Fund. This Christmas season, \$888 was raised for this fund.

The Music Easter/Christmas Fund augments the Music Program budget and is specifically intended to pay for instrumentalists for the Easter and Christmas services. Our church has a rich musical history, and the instrumentalists are very much a part of that tradition. Unspent funds are carried over to be available for the next holiday service. During this Christmas season, \$625 was raised and the Christmas service was enhanced by flute music.



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## The Window

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**With gratitude, we share the names of those who have pledged to support the annual budget as of 1/25/24:**

Meg Adams  
William & Mary Ellen Adams  
Beth Anderson  
Rich & Sue Baldino  
Larry Ballantyne & Lorraine Scarpello  
Joyce Bellonio  
Martin & Patience Benassi  
Jim & Joan Bennett  
Mark Bessette  
Cheryl Bogert  
Priscilla Bradford  
Elaine Burr  
Mark & Martha Butterworth  
Sandy Carter  
Wendy & Jerod Civitello  
Ed & Mary Ellen Collett  
Susan Compton  
Kim Coughlin  
George & Florence Coulston  
Gary & AnnMarie Czajkowski  
Carmen & Melissa Deluca  
Betty DeMayo  
James & Leslie Dockendorff  
Ken & Ann Dubar  
Doris Ferner  
Carl & Lillian Flodquist  
Gail Fulop  
Jody & Rich Gallagher

Sara and Brian Gannon  
Merrilee & George Gladkosky  
Tom & Wendy Glynn  
Susan Guckert  
Betsy Gumbart  
Nancy Gutowski  
Peter & Cheryl Hall  
Eleanor Harple  
Kathleen Harple  
Susan Beth Higgins  
Carla & Michael Hill  
Bernie & Elfie Hummel  
Barbara Joslyn  
Robbie & Bruno Juliano  
Linda Lacobelli  
Dan & Lynn Lafleur  
Suzanne & Nigel Light  
Nancy & Ken Mahoney  
Ted & Joyce Manzo  
John & Rhonda Masnato  
Barbara & Rick Massey  
Heather & Drew Mastracchio  
Michelle & Michael McBride  
Jeanne & William Mecca  
Kathleen & Robert Mickolyzck  
Carol Mitchell  
Carol Amico & Scott Morrow  
Bryant & Sara Munson  
Lori & Michael Murphy

David Nelson  
Lynne & Rob Nielsen  
William Olmstead  
Sally Pallatto  
Timothy Peiffer  
Steve & Mabel Peterson  
Dot Pierce  
Paul & Betsy Powers  
Damon & Gressa Quinn  
Jeanne Reardon  
Lynn Reardon  
Betsey Reid  
Jane Romans  
Gloria Santamauro  
Ruth Scelzo  
Bob & Barbara Scheidecker  
Ann & Herb Schneider  
Adam & Julie Schweickert  
George & Linda Silk  
Stephen & Linda Simonson  
Tony & Cheryl Solecki  
Kerry & Eben Stewart  
Peter & Vicki Struk  
John & Sue Tibor  
Audrey Tilley  
Doris Vigliotto  
Tracy & David Weiss  
Catherine Welch

as of 1/25/2024



Ministry Coordinator  
for Children

**February Church School Calendar**

**February 4<sup>th</sup>** - *Communion Sunday*;  
children begin in Chapel, then to Church school,  
then to worship for Communion with their families.

**February 11<sup>th</sup>** - Regular Sunday;  
*Noisy Offering* collection; children begin in  
worship, then to Church school.

**February 18<sup>th</sup>** - *Family Sunday* (no Church school).  
Children remain in worship with their families.

**February 25<sup>th</sup>** - Regular Sunday;  
*Noisy Offering* collection; children begin in  
worship, then to Church school.

The SEASON of LENT - An Introduction  
The season of Lent, is the fourth season of the Church  
Year. LENT is preceded by ADVENT, the first season;  
CHRISTMAS, the second season; and EPIPHANY, the  
third season of the Church liturgical calendar.

LENT begins with ASH WEDNESDAY, this year,  
February 14th. As noted by Sharon Lee in her  
book(1983), HOSANNA;

Lent is the quiet time of the Christian year. It is the  
solemn season following the starlight of Epiphany and  
leading to the sunrise of Easter.

Lent is not twilight or dusk. It is pre-dawn...at the end  
of the darkness. If Easter is the season of God and  
Pentecost, the season of Spirit; Lent is the season of the  
Son.

These forty days (in which Sundays are not counted)  
are symbolic of Jesus' forty days of testing in the  
wilderness - a time of prayer and fasting before his  
earthly ministry began....

....If Christmas is the season of hope, and Easter the  
season of joy, Lent is the season of faith....

....It is in these days of Lent we best "do justice - love  
kindness and walk humbly with our God" (Micah  
6:8b). Know that the steps we walk are steps on the  
path to Easter morn.

During Lent 2024, the children will be learning about  
God's Covenant with Noah (Genesis 9:8-17), The Faith  
of Abraham (Romans 4:13-15), The Ten

Commandments (Exodus 20:1-17), Moses and the  
Bronze Serpent (Numbers 21: 4-9) and Mark's Holy  
Week (Mark 11:1-11).

**SAVE the DATE**

**Easter Sunday**/Easter Egg Hunt: March 31, 2024  
immediately after worship

Karlee Etter  
Ministry Coordinator for Children

Church Family News

**Birthdays** Sophie Grant 02/04, Walter Kaercher  
02/06, Emma Alden 02/08, Tom Glynn 02/09, Daniel  
Mickolyzck 02/10, Hunter Conley 02/11, Mattison  
Mondene 02/11, Joshua Peiffer 02/13, Richard  
Gherlone 02/14, Joy Gillen  
02/14, Shayna DeLuca 02/14,  
Jim Bennett 02/16, Aidan  
Nottingham 02/17, Victoria  
Hummel 02/19, Kristin Bngtson  
02/19, Kathleen Mickolyzck  
02/21, Jesse Morrow 02/22, Amy Morrow 02/22, Eben  
Stewart 02/23, Florence Klemenz 02/24, Doris  
Vigliotto 02/27, Mark Butterworth 02/28.



**Anniversaries:** Linda & William Tosetti 02/14.

**Weddings:** Allison Denny and Kurt Correia  
were married on December 30, 2023 in the Orange  
Congregational Church with Pastor Scott  
officiating. Congratulations!

**Baptisms:** Anna Selinam Akakpo, daughter of  
Daniel Akakpo and Abigail Klutse, born February  
3, 2023, was baptized on January 28. Joy!

**Births:** Domenico Liuzzi, son of Frankie Liuzzi  
and Chelsea Marks Liuzzi, was born on December  
31, 2023. Barbara Marks is thrilled to be Nico's  
grandmother! Congratulations!

**Confirmation Class**

Scott will contact potential Confirmands and families  
and set a schedule for the Confirmation program for the  
winter and spring.

### OASIS Youth Group in the New Year

The OASIS Youth Group brings together youth from three UCC churches: Spring Glen Church, United Church on the Green, and North Haven Congregational Church, as well as First Presbyterian Church. The Group includes youth from 9th to 12th grade, as well as a middle school group 6th-8th grade. We encourage NHCC youth to join the fun! The OASIS program includes chill night gatherings at Spring Glen UCC, and outings and adventures on Sunday afternoons 4-6pm. There is a Wednesday Worship 7-7:30pm (totally virtual) twice a month; and there will be occasional overnights. Please watch your email for program announcements! If you would like more information contact Scott Morrow, or OASIS Coordinator Emily McKenna - youth@springglenchurch.org .

Here is the schedule for February. All meetings at Spring Glen United Church of Christ unless otherwise noted

**Sun. Feb 4** – Arts Night – 4-6pm

**Wed. Feb 7** – Worship Wednesday ZOOM;  
Theme: intentions; 7-7:30pm

**Sun. Feb 11** – Love & Ashes Party – 4-6pm

**Fri. Feb 16 – Sun. Feb 18** – Winter Retreat at Silver Lake, option to ski at Mohawk Mountain

**Sun. Feb 25** – Escape Room 4-6pm at Escape New Haven

**Wed. Feb 28** – Worship Wednesday ZOOM;  
Theme: power; 7-7:30pm

## Mission Team News

### We Will Continue To Collect Food Items On Sunday With The Offering

Please bring canned soup or vegetables, juice or shelf-stable milk, tuna fish or canned chicken, tea, coffee, peanut butter or jelly and place them in the basket in the Narthex. We will bring your contributions forward as a generous part of our offering on Sunday morning. Thank you!

### Join our Easter Choir Chime Choir!

After a heartwarming and resonant Christmas Eve offering of “Away in a Manger”, more folks are welcome to be part of this musical ministry. Whether you're a seasoned musician or newcomer, we can create harmonious chime melodies together. Rehearsals are open, and the chimes await your “unique musical touch.” They are not difficult to learn. The primary skill is to be able to count to 4 repeatedly and to ring on the appropriate number. Please talk to Jeff Hutchins if you are interested in exploring this beautiful music!

### You are WELCOME to worship in-person in February!

In February we conclude the season of Epiphany and begin the season of Lent. Yes, Easter will be here in March! We will continue to celebrate the power of light amid darkness, and then move to preparation for celebrating Palm Sunday and Easter. Our Ash Wednesday service will be at noon on Wednesday, Feb. 14. Please join us!

We will continue to livestream the worship service through the church website for those who cannot attend in-person by choice or circumstance.

### Seeking Volunteers to help with Sunday Morning Hospitality

Greeters, Deacons, Scripture Readers, and Hosts/Hostesses for coffee are the beacons for Sunday morning welcome and worship. It has been wonderful to enjoy coffee and fellowship after the worship service. There are experienced coffee brewers standing by to help those hosting Fellowship Hour!

Please consider helping to offer hospitality and fellowship on Sunday morning. Sign up through the Church website or talk with Scott or Nancy Mahoney.

### Clothing Bin at NHCC

Bring you gently used clothing and shoes. This is a reminder that We have a clothing bin at the exit by Linsley Street. The think inside the BOX clothing bin program offers an easy way for NHCC to receive a residual income while promoting recycling and diverting textiles



from the landfill to someone less fortunate. The Box accepts: Clothing, Shoes (& Sneakers), Handbags, Linens, Belts, & Accessories.

This box will provide residual income for the church at \$75 per month.

The bin is fully insured and will be emptied often to ensure proper cleanliness.

### Abraham's Tent Completes First Month

Abraham's Tent begins its fourth week at the end of January, hosted by Most Holy Trinity Church of Wallingford. There were three guests from Columbus House for the week opening January 8th, increasing to eight for the week of January 22. Columbus House staff hopes to screen and identify others to bring the total to 10 guests.

The program is centered at the Wallingford Emergency Shelter. Columbus House staff will provide transportation and overnight coverage. Volunteers are needed to provide dinner and a snack, along with companionship in the evening. North Haven Congregational Church will provide meals and companionship for the final week of Abraham's Tent – March 11-17. We will partner with volunteers from St. Elizabeth of the Trinity parish in North Haven for this project. We will schedule a joint planning meeting with St. Elizabeth of the Trinity in early February. We need volunteers to coordinate this effort!! Two Co-Coordinator would be wonderful! Please speak to John Tibor or Priscilla Bradford.

Many church members and friends have donated money and time to support the men of Abraham's Tent in past years. We will reach out to you in the coming weeks with suggestions about how we might work together this year to offer hospitality, support and encouragement through Abraham's Tent.



**Weekly Bible Study ZOOM on Tuesday at 6pm.** The weekly Bible Study gathers on Tuesday evenings at 6pm for fellowship and study. We meet for an hour for study and prayer through ZOOM! All

are welcome! We have been reading our way through the Minor Prophets – in February we will finish reading Malachi – the FINAL minor prophet – then we'll decide our new focus for the spring.. Please come and visit! Tell Scott or Julie you're interested and we'll send you the ZOOM link.

### Prayer Workshop at First Congregational Church Guilford Sat. Feb. 3

The First Congregational Church will hold a prayer workshop on Saturday, February 3. The Rev. Micah Bucey, senior pastor at Judson Memorial Church, New York City, will offer a program entitled "Prayer as a Portal to Possibility: A Radical Invitation to Engagement". The workshop will run from 10am-2:30pm; lunch, Micah's book, and a journal are included. There is no cost; a freewill offering will be accepted. For more information speak with Scott.



### Concert in the Sanctuary! Saturday, February 10, at 7:00PM

Please come support this major fundraiser for the church! The annual Pierpont Concert, featuring the North Haven High School Jazz and Vocal Ensembles, is always great! It is also a mutual fundraiser for both the North Haven High School music department and the Pierpont Concert Series here at the church. This annual NHHS concert, which has been happening for over a decade now, has always been very high energy and quite amazing! Band Director Susan Oakley and Choir Director Sarah Iadarola are very talented teachers and North Haven is quite blessed to have them. The program is always entertaining and diverse, featuring very old to very new musical works. It's great to see what these talented students are up to as they

develop their musicianship and cohesiveness as an ensemble. The youthful musical energy is not to be missed. The church pews fill up fast for this one, so please secure your ticket soon and arrive early, if possible. Doors open at 6:30pm. We have recently raised the ticket price to \$15 general admission. We had been charging only \$10 for all of the Pierpont Concert Series history, 20+ years! Students tickets are still \$10 and if you have any audience members in your family under age 12, it's still free admission for them. Thanks for your support, past and present, in this concert series.

In addition to cash and check, ticket sales can also be made through the "online giving" portal of the church website. In the "note" section you can specify the name and number of tickets you are reserving. Calling Julie in the office or seeing a member of the Music Mission team works, too.



After the February 10 concert, our next performance is May the Fourth, when the United Girls Choir returns. Please save these dates as these evenings are quite fun and enjoyable and good for the community. See you there!

### **Scout Sunday In February**

We will observe celebrate the Scouting program for boys and girls on **Sunday, February 11**. We encourage all Scouts, current and former, to attend and be recognized. Scouts, and particularly current Scouts, are encouraged to wear their uniforms.

### **Pancake Breakfast**

On **Sunday, February 11**. We encourage everyone to join the Men's and Women's Fellowship at our Pancake Breakfast following Worship.

### **Ash Wednesday Service**

Ash Wednesday falls on February 14 this year, along with another familiar observance. There will be a service at noon on Ash Wednesday. Please come to the in-person service if you are able. The service will be livestreamed, and a recording will be available if you would like to watch later.

### **Super Saturday On March 9**

Super Saturday – a day of fellowship and workshops, sponsored by the Southern New England Conference, returns in March. Super Saturday 2024:Foundations is focused on building or strengthening the foundational skills, strategies, possibilities, and best practices that allow us to Be The Church – faithful, resilient, nimble, connected to our neighbors, and built on the cornerstone that is Jesus Christ. The event will be held from 9am-4pm at the Wellsworth Hotel (previously the Southbridge Hotel & Conference Center) at 14 Mechanic Street, Southbridge, MA. The event will be available online as well. Participants will choose three workshops, which will be led by Conference staff and leaders. Lunch will be included, and there will be a Swap Shop – an opportunity for churches and pastors to share resources and materials. A Youth Track, a Children's Program, and childcare for children under 4 years old will be available with advance registration. SNEUCC Executive Minister Darrell Goodwin will share wisdom about partnerships and building connections during opening devotions and in an afternoon workshop. Registration will open soon – put this on your calendar!

### **Community Supper at St. John's Episcopal Church**

After a pandemic pause, Community Suppers return in North Haven! The North Haven Rotary Club will sponsor a monthly community supper at St. John's Episcopal Church on the last Friday of the month at 5:30pm. The next Community Supper will be Friday, February 23rd at 5:30. Donations are accepted gratefully but not required. Fellowship is the goal of these suppers, as well as providing an affordable meal. Please consider attending this supper for good food and good conversation!

### **Storm Closings**

If church programs or activities should need to be cancelled due to bad weather, this information will be

broadcast on WTNH TV channel 8 and WFSB TV channel 3. It will also be listed on our website ([www.northhavenucc.org](http://www.northhavenucc.org)), and on our outgoing telephone message.

It is church policy that afternoon and evening activities for youth are cancelled if school is cancelled or there is an early dismissal.

### **Assistance With Snow Removal: Attention Teenagers And Adults!!**

We haven't needed to clear any snow yet – but it's only February! The Board of Building & Grounds asks your help with clearing snow from the entranceways to the church. This is a 7-day per week need in our current situation. Julie and Scott need dependable access to the office during the week 8am – 2:30pm. Food Pantry clients come 10-11am on Wednesdays and Fridays, community groups use our building on most weekdays and Saturdays, and our worship service is on Sunday. The sidewalks and exits need to be clear for the building to be open. Dave Nelson, the Interim Church Sexton will help with snow removal on weekday mornings.

We would like to set up a “call-out list” of people who are willing to clear snow (up to 6”) from the sidewalks and stairwells at the church. The church has a snow blower and an electric shovel which are available for use. The Church will pay for this service.

If you would like to be on the Snow Removal Call-Out List, please contact Julie in the Church Office.

### **Registration Open For 2024 Summer Conferences at Silver Lake**

Family Camp sessions are May 25-27, June 30-July 3 & July 3-6. Costs are per person \$295 ages 11 & up, \$195 ages 4-10, under 3 is free with a family maximum of \$1,000.

One-week sessions (Sun-Sat) for campers entering grades 4-12 are offered July 7-13, 14-20, 21-27. The standard cost for one week is \$745. Tiered pricing is available on a sliding scale based on ability to pay \$745 / \$670 / \$595. Additional scholarships are available to those who need them.

For more information check out the website [www.silverlakeect.org](http://www.silverlakeect.org), or talk with Karlee or Scott.

Applications for Camp Staff (Team Leader positions are age 20+, Support Staff positions are age 17+) and Junior Staff (16-17) are now being accepted. Summer Staff Applications can be completed online. Apply now; interviews will be scheduled soon.

For more information and to apply, go to <https://www.silverlakeect.org/summeremployment> .

Applications for volunteer positions as Deans or bunkhouse counselors are also being accepted. Please go to [www.silverlakeect.org/deans](http://www.silverlakeect.org/deans) or [www.silverlakeect.org/counselors](http://www.silverlakeect.org/counselors) for more information.

There are also volunteer positions available – go to <https://www.silverlakeect.org/volunteers> .

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### **WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP**

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In addition to remembering our homebound members with Valentine Cards this month, some thinking and planning has been done by the Women's Fellowship Executive Board (Dot Pierce, Nancy Mahoney, Cheryl Bogert, Carol Mitchell, and Kathy Harple) to put a schedule of events together for the Winter and Spring.

We are pleased to announce that on Saturday, February 10th, we will host the Meet & Greet Reception after the Pierpont Concert featuring the North Haven High School Choral and Jazz Groups. You can help by baking or providing something for the refreshment table. If you can help set up before the reception, serve, or cleanup after, it will be appreciated. Please let a member of the Executive Board know how you will help.

One month later, our St. Patrick's Dinner will be held on Sunday, March 10th, beginning at 3:00 p.m. Again we will be asking for help. We will need kitchen help, servers, and setup and cleanup crews. This has always been a fun and well-attended event. Take-out meals and dinner in Carroll Hall will be available by reservation.

A Military Whist will be held on Friday, June 7<sup>th</sup>, doors open at 5:15pm. Tickets will be reserved ahead or purchased at the door.

The Spring Craft & Tag Sale will be held on Saturday, may 11<sup>th</sup> from 9:00am – 2:00pm.



All of these activities are fundraisers and we encourage our congregation, friends, and members of the community to attend. If you would like to be more involved in the Women's Fellowship, we welcome you!

The Executive Board

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### **MEN'S FELLOWSHIP**

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Eleven men gathered for breakfast on January 6th as we kicked off 2024 in style. They were: Larry Ballantyne, Martin Benassi, Jim Bennett, Fran Dutko, Bernie Hummel, Rev. Scott Morrow, Bryant Munson, Tim Peiffer, Stephen Simonson, Peter Struk, and John Tibor.

On the health news front, Pastor Scott reported that Herb Schneider was still recouping at Masonic trying to build up his strength so that he can move into his new Elim Park surroundings, while spouse Anne, who fell and broke her hip while on her way to visit Herb, has undergone surgery, contracted COVID, and recently relocated to Elim. We also learned that Rich Gallagher is scheduled to have heart surgery later this month, and that Audrey Tilly is still rehabbing from a broken arm at the Healthcare Center.

Tim presented the day's devotional, titled "The Meaning of Myrrh," reading from "Our Daily Bread," with the scripture lesson taken from the Gospel According to Matthew, Chapter 2, verses 9-12.

I mentioned that the Ministry Leadership Board, of which Bryant, Martin, Scott (ex-Officio), and I are members, was presently engaged in the tedious work of developing a 2024 church budget, and I urged everyone to please return their completed pledge cards if they hadn't already done so, and/or prayerfully consider increasing their pledges, as although the church was very fortunate to end 2023 with a small surplus, the MLB faces the same concerns and challenges again this year. (Please see this month's MLB article in the Window for more on this.)

Tim broached another very important topic this morning, asking us "How could we men best contribute financially to the 2024 church budget?" Stephen suggested bringing your recyclable plastic bottles and

aluminum cans to the church as one small way to help out, mentioning that his recent trip to Maruti's Bottle and Can Redemption Center yielded \$135.00, while I suggested that we consider running a fundraiser, such as a Military Whist, which could, with a little effort, earn \$1,500.00-\$2,000 for the church.

The men will next meet for breakfast and fellowship on Saturday, January 20th, beginning at 7:30 am. All men are welcome, be they members of the church or not.

Jim Bennett

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### **PASTORAL VISITS IN HOSPITAL**

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Please contact Julie or Scott if you anticipate a trip to the hospital or unexpectedly find yourself hospitalized, so that Scott can visit if you wish. Hospitals and nursing facilities may be limiting the number of daily visits and visitors with individual patients.

### **Save The Date!!**

Saturday, Feb. 9 – Prayer Workshop at 1<sup>st</sup> Cong'l Guilford, 10-2:30, included lunch

Saturday, Feb. 10 – Concert by NHHS Jazz and Vocal Groups

Sunday, Feb. 11 – Pancake Breakfast after Worship Service

Wednesday, Feb. 14 – Ash Wednesday Service, noon

Friday, Feb. 23 – Community Supper at St. John's Episcopal Church, 5:30pm

Saturday, Mar 9 – SUPER SATURDAY, onsite & online; 8am-4pm

Easter Sunday - March 31, 2024 Easter Egg Hunt immediately after worship

Saturday, May 4 – Concert by Elm City Girls Choir

CARDS & LETTERS

Below are some of our church members who are not always able to be present for worship on Sunday mornings. We invite you to send them a card and include them in your prayers.

Meg Adams

67 Sackett Point Rd., Apt. 408  
North Haven, CT 06473

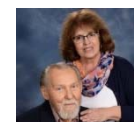


Joyce Bellonio

1103 Ashlar Village  
Wallingford, CT 06492

Marlene Bellonio

West Haven Center For Nursing & Rehab  
310 Terrace Ave, W146D  
West Haven CT 06516



Merrilee & George Gladkosky

145 N. Ridgeland Road  
Wallingford CT 06492

Betsy Gumbart

150 Cook Hill Rd. Unit 7311  
Cheshire, CT 06410

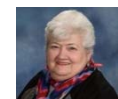


Ellie Harple

176 Pool Road  
North Haven, CT 06473

Phylliss & Walter Kaercher

5 Tennyson Ave.  
North Haven, CT 06473



Betty Martin

22 Canterbury Rd.  
Hamden CT 06514

Lorraine Morehouse

7212 Ashlar Village  
Wallingford, CT 06492

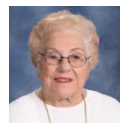


Linda Rankin

22 Masonic Ave, Room R504B  
Wallingford, CT 06492

Shirley Ryan

5 Shepard Hill Road  
Hamden CT 06514



Gloria Santamauro

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Bob & Barbara Scheidecker

59 Grove Road  
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Herb & Ann Schneider

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Linda Shannon

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North Haven, CT 06473



Audrey Tilley

1211 Ashlar Village  
Wallingford, CT 06492

Jeff Whipple

5124 Avalone Haven Drive  
North Haven, CT 0647



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:** Linda Rankin, Linda Shannon, Marlene Bellonio, Shirley Ryan, Joyce Bellonio, Meg Adams, David Gould, and Sarah.

HOMEBOUND MEMBERS

We are livestreaming our worship services on Sunday mornings. We continue to celebrate Communion on the first Sunday of the month, encouraging those at home to participate with their own bread and juice.

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



## 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)

ChurchOffice@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

**OFFICE MANAGER**  
Julie Schweickert

**INTERIM SEXTON**  
Dave Nelson

**WINDOW DEADLINE**  
**March 20, 2024**

### LECTIONARY READINGS

#### February 4<sup>th</sup> (Fifth Sunday after Epiphany)

Isaiah 40:21-31

1 Corinthians 9:16-23

Psalm 147:1-11, 20c

Mark 1:29-39

#### February 11<sup>th</sup> (Transfiguration Sunday)

2 Kings 2:1-12

2 Corinthians 4:3-6

Psalm 50:1-6

Mark 9:2-9

#### February 14<sup>th</sup> (Ash Wednesday)

Joel 2:1-2, 12-17 or Isaiah 58:1-12

2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10

Psalm 51:1-17

Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

#### February 18<sup>th</sup> (First Sunday in Lent)

Genesis 9:8-17

1 Peter 3:18-22

Psalm 25:1-10

Mark 1:9-15

#### February 25<sup>th</sup> (Second Sunday in Lent)

Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16

Romans 4:13-25

Psalm 22:23-31

Mark 8:31-38 or 9:2-9

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

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