



The Chimes

February 2022 Edition

Editor: Sherri Boldt

E-copy: Brian Hager

From the Pastor's Desk:

“And now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love.” 1 Cor 13:13

It is February and marketing ads tout Valentine's Day everywhere. Hearts and flowers. There is some validity there as the priest Valentine ministered to persecuted Christians, married couples when marriage was outlawed in Rome (truly!), and was known for caring and healing. He was martyred and has become the patron saint of affianced couples, beekeepers and the mentally ill.

Though our tradition doesn't recognize saints, per se, we can learn from their selfless acts on behalf of others, because of their deep faith. One such person is the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. whose belief in non-violent resistance spurred the Civil Rights Movement and made more progress toward equality in 50 years than in the previous 350 years.

Dr. King's acceptance speech when receiving the Nobel Peace Prize is least-quoted yet very appropriate for the situation in our country today, as well as a good focus for February. He said:

“I believe that unarmed truth and unconditional love will have the final word in reality. This is why right temporarily defeated is stronger than evil triumphant.”

Take hold of your faith. Absorb the strength and inspiration of “saints.” And love one another.

Peace Be With You, *SUE*



What shall WE bring?

“May our Lord, Jesus, and our God ... encourage us; God help us to love with our hearts and strengthen us in every good deed and word.” 2 Thessalonians 2: 16-17

God bless us in this new year. This is a new time and an opportunity to look to a future with renewed love for Jesus and our fellow friends here at the Congregational Church of North Stonington.

We want and need to include THE WAY of JESUS in our lives:

- Praising God for all of the many gifts we have received
- Sharing God’s Grace and God’s Love
- Working together to love and respect each one
- Bringing our whole selves with all our heart, soul and mind
- Coming to listen and learn and pray
- Sharing in the work of God’s ministry
- Sharing in goodness and grace and giving
- Letting our daily good deeds shine out
- Celebrating with everyone all that is good and true.

How easy it will be to help an ongoing charity!

We sell **Fair Trade Coffee**, Tea, and Hot Chocolate. These products come from Equal Exchange and this is a UCC Project.

We collect **Pop Top/Ring Tabs** from aluminum cans to help out the Ronald McDonald House.

Bring in your clean/rinsed **Soda cans or plastic bottles** (not glass) to the shed behind the church, and use the 5 cent return for missions, like Habitat for Humanity ECT.

We have a box for used **Ink Jet Cartridges** and we receive cash for the church.

Stickers from craft activities and return address labels can be used at the Drop In Learning Center in New London.

2022 Calendars can be passed along to the Women's Shelter – we drop them off at Safe Futures any time of year so each new resident gets one.

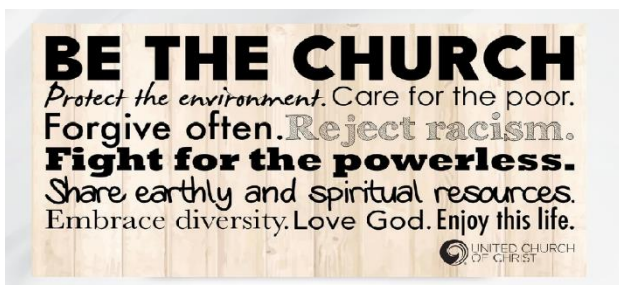
And remember to **Search with a Purpose** by naming our church when you shop online, if you use: I Give, Amazon Smile or Good Search.

Thanks Everyone!

What Matters for February

Why justice? All of these articles written monthly in the Village Chimes are about justice & fairness.

I have written monthly since July of 2020 when we proclaimed, “Justice Matters,” and wrote a short article with the UCC banner:



And what does the LORD require of you but *to act justly, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with your God?* [Micah 6:8 NIV](#)

We will always need to be reminded about fairness and justice, right? But how do we live by loving mercy or by walking the walk with God?

We need to start here in this place by listening, by learning how to bend God’s arc in compromise as we plan together for a future of ministry in faith, and by reaching out to all who want to play a part in sharing the love of God.



God Bless this Congregation, Julie Evans

WHO'S WHO FOR 2022

Got a question? ...a concern? ...a suggestion?

If it's about worship, we hope you'll call Pastor Sue.

If it's about Christian Education, please call Kay.

If it's about music, call Mike or Sherri Boldt.

If it's about mission, Mary Bliven

...your pledge, Gretchen Noonan;

... facilities, Brian Hager;

... flowers for the altar, Monica Eppinger;

... finance, Arthur Doble;

...church business in general, Steve Gadaree;

...Women's Fellowship, Irene Donald;

...Youth Fellowship, Kay Lautzenheiser;

...pastoral relations, Gretchen Noonan or Arthur Doble;

...publicity, Pat Danley, Julie Evans, Monica Eppinger;

...fund raising, Pat Danley or Janetha Sander.

...technology, Jamie Towle-Weicksel or Brian Hager

...cemetery, Kris Serwinski

If that still doesn't quite do it, call Sue or Rosemary in the office and we'll do our best to help!

COUNCIL CHAIRPERSON: Steve Gadaree

FINANCE CHAIRPERSON: Arthur Doble;

VICE-CHAIRPERSON: Patty Danley

CLERK: Susan Pianka

BUDGET CHAIRPERSON: Kim Gadaree

TREASURER: Kim Gadaree

STEWARDSHIP CHAIRPERSON: Julie Evans

FINANCIAL SECRETARY: Gretchen Noonan

HISTORIAN: Mobby Larson

AUDITOR:

FIRE ALARM SYSTEM: Paul Ames

DEACONS: Monica Eppinger, Kathi Thaxton, Matthew Sander, Evelyn Bamford, Patty Danley, Ron Robbins, Anne Nelson, Amy Foster (Chair), David McCord

TRUSTEES: Brian Hager,
Paul Ames, John Terluk, David McCord, Rob Rockwell,
Gretchen Noonan, Steve Weicksel

MISSION COMMITTEE: Pat Turner, Kathi Thaxton, Julie Evans,
Beth Thompson, Kay Lautzenheiser, Mary Bliven

MUSIC COMMITTEE: Sherri Boldt (chair), Alice Robbins, Kris
Shabunia, Evelyn Bamford

NOMINATING COMMITTEE: Evelyn Bamford, Kay
Lautzenheiser, Matthew Sander, Mary Bliven

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION COMMITTEE: Janetha Sander,
Ingrid Stock, Karen Doble, Kathi Thaxton, Mary Jane Bliven,
Jamie Towle-Weicksel

MEMORIAL GIFTS COMMITTEE: Marty Booker

CEMETERY COMMITTEE: Kris Serwinski (Superintendent)
Paul Ames, Pat Turner, Joe Serwinski

STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE: Julie Evans

PASTORAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE: Arthur Doble,
Gretchen Noonan, Pat Danley, (Vice Chair) Kathi Thaxton (Vice
Chair)

FUND RAISING COMMITTEE: Patty Danley, Helen Evans, Kay
Lautzenheiser, Mary Jane Bliven, Janetha Sander, Julie Clow
(Bliven)

DELEGATES: New London Association, UCC: Gretchen
Noonan

DELEGATES: State UCC Conference: Gretchen Noonan

WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP: Irene Donald, Julie Evans.
Elizabeth Witter, Irene Donald, Elizabeth Witter,
Julie Evans, Patty Danley, Monica Eppinger, Sharon
Roode, and Mary Bliven

SENIOR PF: Advisor, Kay Lautzenheiser

JUNIOR PF: Advisor, Kay Lautzenheiser

FLOWERS: Monica Eppinger

CHOIR DIRECTORS: Senior Choir: Mike Noonan; Bell Choir:
Mike Noonan

Cherub Choir: Kathi Thaxton; Youth/Junior Choir: Mike Noonan

MYSTIC AREA ECUMENICAL COUNCIL

REPRESENTATIVE: Julie Evans, Sue Latourette

PUBLICITY CO-CHAIRS: - Julie Evan, Pat Danley, Monica
Eppinger

TECHNOLOGY TEAM: Brian Hager, Jamie Towle-Weicksel
(Chair), Mackenzie Turrisi.

VILLAGE CHIMES EMAILS AND CHURCH WEBSITE - Brian
Hager

“CHIMES”: Sherri Boldt, Brian Hager

ORGANIST: Mike Noonan

PASTOR: Susan G. Latourette

SEXTON: Charlotte Melia

SECRETARY: Rosemary Kuemper

CE DIRECTOR: Kay Lautzenheiser

EMERGENCY FUEL ASSISTANCE FUND



***For The Pawcatuck
Neighborhood Center***



February is our Time to donate to the PNC Fuel Fund

2022 MONTHLY MISSION PROJECTS

February – PNC Fuel Fund

March - UCC One Great Hour collection

April - Care & Share, Part of Mystic Area Ecumenical Council

May - Church World Service (CWS) Blanket project

June - Tools of Hope project for CWS
-June is Hunger Awareness Month at PNC

July & August - continue PNC

September - Promote & participate in the Alzheimer's Walk

October - UCC Neighbors in Need collection

November - Provide for the PNC Thanksgiving Baskets
Christmas ANGEL Program for PNC (adopt a Family)

December - UCC The Christmas Fund

January 2023 – World Vision Hope Child,
PROMOTION & Sign Ups

-Begin collecting articles for CWS Hygiene Kits
-Habitat Sunday and Collection

Scout Sunday (Boy Scouts of America): February 6th, 2022



Scouts on Scout Sunday in Philadelphia, 1949

The Boy Scouts of America have designated the Sunday preceding 8 February, or 8 February if it is a Sunday, as **Scout Sunday** and the following Saturday is designated as **Scout Sabbath**. The United Methodist Church and the Presbyterian Church (USA) celebrate Scout Sunday on the second Sunday of February as not to conflict with Transfiguration Sunday.

The day is meant to mark the founding of the Scouts in the United States. Observation varies by unit and locale. Scouts go to their places of worship in uniform and help with the service.

In the United States, Scouting has been used by churches, synagogues, and many other religious organizations as part of their youth ministries. Approximately 50 percent of all Scouting units are chartered to religious groups. These observances offer an opportunity for congregations to honor Scouts and Scouters, as

well as to learn more themselves about the value of Scouting as a youth program. (*Source: Wikipedia*).

The Scouting program in North Stonington is more than just an activity for our youth to learn about the outdoors.

Scouting provides fun, fellowship, and training to our youth as well as youth in our community. It emphasizes honesty, self-reliance, and respect. Through a year-round program, it affects character, citizenship, and personal fitness. But the success of our Scouting depends on our volunteers, who serve in a variety of leadership roles so that our young people may benefit from our Scouting ministry.

As the Boy Scouts of America celebrates its anniversary, we salute the splendid volunteers who serve as Cubmasters, Scoutmasters, and Venturing Advisors, and in other positions of leadership.

Many volunteers give their time so Scouting's members will be involved in a quality program. Merit badge counselors help Scouts learn more about vocations and hobbies. Volunteers see that Scout camps have the necessary physical facilities and that all camp activities meet the high health and safety standards of the national organization.

Volunteers serve behind the scenes on committees so that community organizations using the Scouting program can find the best leadership possible for the youth related to their organizations. Volunteers, too, provide training for these leaders and offer a continuing service to every Cub Scout pack, Boy Scout troop, and Venturing crew. Many men and women offer their services to Scouting, but more volunteers are always needed to serve as leaders or share their special skills with young people and other adults. All these people experience a special sense of achievement through their work in Scouting.

We congratulate all the volunteers who are active in Scouting throughout North Stonington and want to offer a special prayer and word of the thanks to the leaders of North Stonington Pack 71 and Troop 71 chartered to North Stonington Congregational Church.

"I think the Gospel is a very powerful, yet a very simple message. It is a message of love, respect, and responsibility. Scouting is all of that."

--Pastor Peter Paine, Waukegan, Illinois

2022 WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP CALENDAR

***Women of vision ...
With heart, soul, mind, and strength
Hearts of Love
Souls, Alive in the Spirit
Minds with Vision
Strength of Character***

Feb 16	NOON	Annual Meeting, Hewitt Hall
March 16	NOON	Regular Meeting, Hewitt Hall
April 22-3		"Spring Gathering," Farmington, For Southern New England Women Connection Annual Meeting
May 14		(Pending) Garden Club Seedling Sale WF Food Booth
June	Dine Out	NOON
September		Crafting and Sewing groups start up 21 st NOON Regular Meeting, Hewitt Hall
October		RETREAT at Silver Lake

December 3rd Annual Christmas Bazaar 9 – 2
7th Christmas Party & Pot Luck NOON
Gift to exchange

Women's Fellowship

Ladies - Please Join Us



Wednesday, February 16th
Noon Hewitt Hall

*Brown Bag Lunch & our Annual
Business Meeting:*

- Planning for the year
- Budget for 2022
- Review of Bazaar

***We are planning to safe distance
& everyone must wear a mask.***

All ladies are welcome!

Thanks a Heap!

Thanks to...

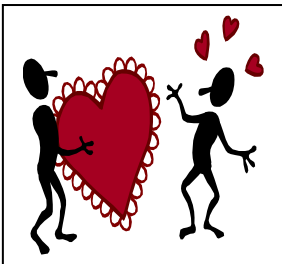
- Beth Thompson, from the family of Bev Wilson, for her consistent kindness to our mother, Beverly, in bringing her to services each Sunday. She is a God-send!
- All who are working together to keep in-person worship open to everyone.
- The folks who have volunteered to sponsor our World Vision Mission Child.
- All who donated to Habitat for Humanity of Eastern CT.
- All of the outgoing and incoming officers and lay leaders of the church.
- Everyone who attended or zoomed in for the Annual Meeting on January 23rd.
- Pat Danley for the annual report for the church and all committees and boards and the congregation.
- Sue Pianka for the clerk's report and to Kim Gadaree for the budget report.
- All of those members and friends who have sent in pledges and donations for 2022.
- Brian Hager and the Trustees for Tree Work in the back in preparation for the Memorial Garden. Also, Dennis Bliven for cutting the wood to size.
- Brian Hager for meeting with several plaster and ceiling contractors to get quotes for the work in the sanctuary.
- Each of you who give personally to HELO Haiti and/or UCC Disaster Relief.

-Mackenzie Turrise and Will Stevens for taking a turn at leading the youth group.

-Sherri Boldt for service as our editor of the of the Village Chimes for so many years, and joyfully promising to keep on with her reporting and with the Peanuts[®] gang.

February Birthdays...

- 2** Joyce Cook, Lynne McCue
- 6** Craig McCue, Mac Turner
- 10** Catherine Lewis
- 11** Gloria Carlson
- 12** Carrie Bossie
- 14** Robin Piela
- 15** Marty Booker
- 16** Robert Boissevain, Ron Robbins
- 17** Theresa Broach
- 21** George Danley
- 22** Denise Hager
- 24** Judi Haydash, Marilyn Taylor
- 25** Janetha Sander
- 26** Dennis Bliven, Maddy Thaxton
- 29** Mildred Borden



...and Anniversaries

- 3** Richard and Nancy Slimak
- 12** Dale and Kathy Wunschel
- 20** Jeffrey and Anne Nelson

If we have missed your special day(s) or if there are corrections to be made, please notify the church office at (860) 535-0379.

Worship Watch - January 2022 **Congregational Church of No. Stonington**

Worship and Church School at 10 a.m. Sundays, streaming online.

Zoom-accessible & in-person Church School.

Office Hours Mon-Thurs 9 to 1.



6th - Communion Sunday – “Caught in the Net”

1 Corinthians 15:1-11 and **Luke 5:1-11**. Jesus appears to Paul; Jesus appears by the lake and calls his first disciples. Senior Choir sings.

13th - “Telling it Plainly” – Jeremiah 17:5-10 and Luke 6:17-26.

Both lessons speak of curses and blessings. Learn how to be blessed. Senior Choir sings.

20th - “Only One Judge” - Genesis 45:3-11,15 and Luke 6:27-38. We meet up with Joseph after many years in Pharaoh’s court and Jesus commands “love your enemies.” Can we put ourselves in Joseph’s place of love and forgiveness?

Senior Choir and Handbell Choir

27th - “Transfiguration” Exodus 34:29-35 and Luke 9:28-36, (37-43). Moses brings the tablets down the mountain and his face glows. The disciples witness the same glow come upon Jesus, and are amazed.

March 2nd Ash Wednesday Service 7 pm

February Mission Focus: PNC Fuel Fund

***“As an Open and Affirming church:** We respect the worth and dignity of all persons who come into our church family regardless of race, age, marital standing, gender, economic status, mental or physical challenges, nationality or sexual identity. We promise to support one another in our personal struggles, to understand and accept differences in one another, and pray to strengthen our love and acceptance.”*