



# NORTH WIND

*Rejoicing in the Spirit ~ Celebrating Community*

North Congregational Church New Hartford, CT 06057 June/July 2018

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Thoughts from the Interim Pastor - June, 2018 “Past and Future in the Present”

Some of you may remember a daily cartoon in the papers called “The Far Side”. In one of the cartoons, a scientist has drawn a chart with formulas on the left side of the chart and on the right side of the chart. In the middle of the diagram, it says “something magic happens”. The cartoon is captioned “Can you be a little more *specific* about *that* part?”

Magic happens in God’s nature all the time. The Chrysalis looks like a caterpillar, then spins its cocoon, hides and grows, and comes out as a butterfly. There is, as far as I know, nothing wrong with the caterpillar as it is. It just isn’t living out its destiny. It is cute and fuzzy and moves along slowly on tree branches. It may think that its development means being a *quicker* caterpillar, perhaps *jumping* from branch to branch. Instead, it starts slowing down and developing a cocoon until it must actually stop for awhile. During this cocoon time, as the old Far Side cartoon says, “something magic happens”. Then suddenly, it bursts from its shell and becomes something entirely different – beautiful, yet streamlined, more colorful and able to *fly* from branch to branch.

If you were here on Pentecost, you have actively felt the Spirit’s presence as we commissioned all of you. I believe that by the Fall, we will begin to see a new North Church emerge. Can I be more *specific* about the magic happening? No, because I don’t actually understand it myself. The Bible says, “the Spirit blows where it wills” What will our particular butterfly look like after this season? I can’t say, but I can say that I have seen it time and time again throughout my life –in people and in churches. God renews lives and organisms like the church all the time. I believe the caterpillar has been fed with the Spirit and the nutrients of Community, Bible Study, commissioning and blessing since November. During the summer, our cocoon will continue to grow and we will shed what is not necessary, while keeping what is beautiful and truly *us*. Then “the magic happens”, and we will go off into the future, knowing who we are and searching for your new pastor.

Interestingly enough, the religious calendar calls the period of time we are entering “Ordinary Time”. This Interim Period should feel nothing less than “extraordinary” and when we are done, we should be up-to-date and ready for the future. The last time the church went through this process, before Rev. Margaret Hoffmeister, was 2008 and it is 10 years later. Much has happened since 2008 in our culture and – I believe – in this area, this town, this church.

We need to be up-to-date and living in the present. In order to do that, we need to leave some things behind, take what we need for the journey, and begin making our way into the future. Over the summer, when things are less hectic in the world, I’d like to do some of all of those. First, I’d like to do a few weeks worth of looking at the church’s history, acknowledge the hurts and mistakes that have inevitably happened over time beginning after church on June 24th. As we release any anger, guilt, shame, fear that we have, God will help us shed it, so we can see the beauty, strength, fortitude, and grace that has been buried under it all.

My friend Gordon Sherman used to say “Do what you can, with what you have, where you are”. The Interim is, it seems to me, a time to do just that. It is a holy time, a transformative time -- a time of Sabbath where we focus inward on who we are and what we have, a time when we consider who we want to be, as we rest in God’s love and healing mercies. I hope you will join us.

Peace, Rev. John

## HELP WANTED

Director of Christian Education. Must enjoy working with children. Part-time position, responsible for curriculum planning and coordinating with volunteer teachers. Background check required. Contact Rev. John in the church office if interested.

## DEACONS

I recently came across this Northwind article I'd written after attending a lecture given by Marian Wright Edelman a few years ago. Thinking it is very timely, I'd like to share it again with you.

Ms. Edelman founded the Children's Defense Fund and has been an energetic advocate for children for more than 40 years. Though now in her 70's, Ms. Edelman seemed to show no signs of tiring as she exhorted the audience to "close the courage gap" and work persistently to reduce gun violence and provide a safer environment for our children. She encouraged us to educate ourselves and others, to spend time in prayer, and to be bold and tenacious our work.

The following excerpts are from her essay "Standing Up for Children".

- \* "The U.S. is first among industrialized nations in defense expenditures, military exports, and the number of millionaires and billionaires. But we're 23rd in avoiding infant mortality and we're last in protecting our children against gun violence: Since 1979, firearms have killed 90,000 children in our homes, schools and neighborhoods, more than the toll of all our combat deaths in Vietnam. When is our moral reach going to match our military and economic reach in a world in desperate need of hope and peace and justice?"
- \* "We must wear down our powerful leaders through persistent witnesses all over America until they hear and do right by our children. We must call, write, visit, hold prayer vigils and make our leaders see and feel the suffering of children. Child advocates must get better and tougher at reclaiming our children's birthright to freedom from fear."
- \* "Be strong and courageous and leave the results to God. Don't be afraid to be a voice in the wilderness for children and the poor. It's the moral and sensible thing to do."
- \* "Never give up. Making our nation and world fit for our children and grandchildren is a task for marathoners – not sprinters. It is a complex and long-term struggle that must be pursued with urgency and persistence."
- \* "The great events of this world are not battles and elections and earthquakes and thunderbolts. The great events are babies, for each child comes with the message that God is not yet discouraged with humanity, but is still expecting goodwill to become incarnate in each human life."

May these quotes inspire to learn, to pray and to act to care for and protect all of God's children.

Fran Herman

## FELLOWSHIP

April Expenses - last 2 weeks	\$42.52
Bought plants for front of church	
April Donations - last 2 weeks in April	\$6.96
May Expenses – ½ month	None
May Donations - ½ month of May	\$4.00

There is a schedule for the committee's for fellowship Months. One is in the fellowship hall and one in the Hallway on the bulletin board. Committees can see what month they will do fellowship.

Cele Hoffman, Fellowship Chairperson

## TRUSTEES

### CHURCH WEBSITE AND ONLINE PRESENCE

The church website has been updated, content has been added and is now easier to navigate. Examples include:

- This and past issues of the North Wind are now found on the Church Website (<https://northchurchucc.com/newsletters/>) If you misplace your emailed or hard copy you can always find it online.
- Donna Howard, our church historian (did you even know we have an historian?), has provided pictures and an article (Early Years) for the new history section. She is still writing articles so check back frequently. An upcoming article is about the church that stabbed itself. How could you not want to read about that! (<https://northchurchucc.com/about/history/>).
- Upcoming events such as free community meals and the Peach Fest are found on the Events section. I am looking forward to the event on August 16<sup>th</sup>.
- Each committee now has their own section to use as they please. Music, Deacons. Missions, Trustees etc. You might even find a joke here or there if you look.
- Pictures, pictures and more pictures. See the Posts section for pictures of the Tag Sale, the Farmington Valley Band concert, Easter Sunday, Passing of the Gavel and an article on the Noah's Ark "fiber sculpture".
- Facebook link, contact information and address on every page. Click on the address will take you to a map. Of course you already know who and where we are but visitors might not.

The following figure shows how to navigate the new layout. Check it out.



## PEACH FESTIVAL

The 22<sup>nd</sup> Peach Festival and Craft Fair is Saturday, August 25<sup>th</sup>. We have the Pine Meadow green reserved. Pie and shortcake bakers are getting organized. Signup sheets for ingredient donations and pie bakers are on the bulletin board. We will have a raffle table with great prizes.

While we have not scheduled a formal meeting, we are coordinating via email. Please email the church if you would like to be included in the planning emails. Hope the peaches are luscious this year! All are encouraged to help with this successful annual fund-raiser! Please contact the church office to volunteer for pie baking and the raffle table.

## MISSIONS

Local level:

\* The Tag Sale/Rummage Sale was on Friday and Saturday, May 4th and 5th. Thanks to all of you willing workers and your donations, we were busy both days and had many satisfied customers! The new Rummage Sale made \$281.19 to go into our outreach savings account and the Tag Sale made \$912.70 to go into the general fund. Of nearly 300 coupons for "\$2 off a purchase of \$5" that we gave out, 5 were returned, for a response of around 3% (successful experiment!). Missions may use some proceeds in the savings account to buy at least 2 new 8' tables for church outreach events.

San Juan Center of Hartford came to clean out after the sale. They took away nearly everything left on the tables, enough to fill a large truck. They invited us to tour their facility any time we like to see how the clothes and household items will be used. They deeply appreciated the clothes, in particular, because they now have many Puerto Rican families staying indefinitely in the Hartford area who need year-round clothing.

We also donated 9 boxes of leftover books to the Beekley Library for their book sales.

\* For July and August, we hope to see you at our outreach table at the Farmers Market in the center of New Hartford on Fridays, 4 pm to 7 pm. We will hand out literature about our church and our schedule of summer events. If you want to help at the table, please call Donna (860-738-2207) or Gail Embrey (860-379-9667).

\* Fourth Sunday Food Collection: Putting grocery bags in the narthex, each with a list of items that the food banks need, continues to be very successful. We are announcing the collection on the third Sunday. If you miss Fourth Sunday, put your donation in the box in the entryway to the Fellowship Hall. Thank you!

State level:

\* The Refugee Resettlement Project now meets twice monthly for co-sponsoring the Aljasem family of 7 from Syria. The Aljasems are doing well.

National level:

\* UCC Sunday offerings continue.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna Howard, Missions Co-chair

## MEMORIAL HYMNAL PLATES

**Memorial Hymnal Plates** are being offered to help offset the cost of the new hymnals. The suggested donation is \$20.00. Fill out the form in the bulletin or contact the church office.

## SILVER LAKE SUMMER CAMP AND CONFERENCE CENTER

Registration for Summer Camp for grades 4 through 12 is now open, register online at [silverlakeect.org](http://silverlakeect.org).

Summer 2018 Conference dates:

Precamp: June 17<sup>th</sup> – 23<sup>rd</sup>

Week 3: July 8<sup>th</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup>

Week 6: July 29<sup>th</sup> – August 4<sup>th</sup>

Week 1: June 24<sup>th</sup> – June 30<sup>th</sup>

Week 4: July 15<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup>

Week 7: August 5<sup>th</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup>

Week 2: July 1<sup>st</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup>,

Week 5: July 22<sup>nd</sup> – 28<sup>th</sup>

Sunday, May 20<sup>th</sup>, Open House at Silver Lake.

## NEIGHBORING CHURCHES' EVENTS

**Saturday, June 16, 4:00 – 7:00 p.m.** “Pasta Supper and More!” To benefit Lucy Riley and Family. Continus serving, silent auction and drawing. St. Paul’s Lutheran Church, 837 Charles St., Torrington. \$10.00 per person, \$5.00 for children ages 5 – 10. Call to reserve tickets – 860-482-3555 or visit website [www.stpaulstorrington.com](http://www.stpaulstorrington.com). Tickets also available at the door. Lucy is a 3<sup>rd</sup> grader in need of a heart transplant and the family is struggling to keep up with expenses.

## COMMUNITY EVENTS

### **Dementia Family Support Group hosted by Arden Courts**

**Every Second Wednesday of the Month at 12:00 p.m.**

100 Fisher Dr., Avon, CT 06001. Coffee and conversation specifically for people with dementia and their caregivers. Questions? Call (860) 678-7500 or email [Avon@arden-courts.com](mailto:Avon@arden-courts.com).

### **Hartford Yard Goats**

I invite you and your community at North Congregational Church to be a part of Faith & Family Day at Dunkin' Donuts Park! Faith & Family Day is a special event celebrating the religious communities of our region with activities and promotions at the ballpark including an On-Field Ceremony Celebrating Community Leadership as well as an Open Forum on faith featuring Yard Goats Players. We will be hosting Faith & Family Day multiple times this season, including; Saturday, August 25<sup>th</sup>.

Kind Regards,  
Shawn Perry

### **PARTNERS IN COMMUNITY SAFETY**

Violence Prevention Series Help your neighbor, help yourself

#### **Gun Safety**

"Gun violence is a safety and quality of life issue—not a political one." Mary Ann Jacob

Come hear Mary Ann Jacob, gun owner, clerk librarian and survivor of the Sandy Hook mass shooting.

**Thursday, May 24<sup>th</sup>**, at the Bittermann Center, 2 Daisy Hill Road, Canaan, Ct.

Why should I come? This presentation is important for everyone who has concerns about gun safety in our community. Whether you are a gun owner or not, the evening will be informative for all.

Pizza and soda 6 - 6:30 pm Babysitting available

Presentation 6:30 - 8 pm, with time for a question and answer session

#### **Domestic Violence**

Women’s Support Services’ staff and volunteers will facilitate a discussion about the dynamics of domestic violence, and the ways our community can help address the issue with resources and support from our organization.

**Thursday, June 28<sup>th</sup>**, at the Bittermann Center, 2 Daisy Hill Road, Canaan, Ct.

Pizza and soda 6 - 6:30 pm Babysitting available

Presentation 6:30 - 8 pm, with time for a question and answer session

#### **Substance Abuse**

In conjunction with the McCall Center and Mountainside, this presentation will cover prevention and treatment as well as educating us to recognize signs of addiction.

**Thursday, July 12<sup>th</sup>**, at the Bittermann Center, 2 Daisy Hill Road, Canaan, Ct.

Pizza and soda 6 - 6:30 pm Babysitting available

Presentation 6:30 - 8 pm, with time for a question and answer session

**PARTNERS IN COMMUNITY SAFETY:** St. Martin of Tours (Canaan, Norfolk, Lakeville, Ct.), Berkshire Taconic Community Foundation, Northwest Corner Committee for Gun Violence Prevention, Northwest Corner Prevention Network and Womens Support Services.

## JUNE CHURCH CALENDAR

### Sunday, June 3<sup>rd</sup>, Youth Sunday

Choir Practice 9:00 a.m.  
Worship 10:00 a.m.  
All church Picnic

### Tuesday, June 5<sup>th</sup>

Choir Practice 7:00 p.m.

### Thursday, June 7<sup>th</sup>

Bible Study 10:00 a.m.

### Sunday, June 10<sup>th</sup>, Music Sunday

Choir Practice 9:00 a.m.  
Worship 10:00 a.m.

### Wednesday, June 13<sup>th</sup>

Deacons' meeting 6:30 p.m.

### Friday, June 15<sup>th</sup> to Saturday, June 16<sup>th</sup>, UCC Tri-Conference Annual Meeting

### Sunday, June 17<sup>th</sup>, Father's Day

Worship 10:00 a.m.

### Sunday, June 24<sup>th</sup>

Worship 10:00 a.m.  
Church Council 11:30 a.m.

### Fourth Sunday Food Collection

**Office Hours most weeks:** Wednesdays and  
Thursdays-10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. **or as  
posted\*.**

## JUNE

### LECTIONARY SCRIPTURE

### June 3<sup>rd</sup>, Second Sunday after Pentecost

1 Samuel 3:1-20, Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18,  
Deuteronomy 5:12-15, Psalm 81:1-10,  
2 Corinthians 4:5-12, Mark 2:23-3:6.

### June 10<sup>th</sup>, Third Sunday after Pentecost

1 Samuel 8:4-11, Psalm 138,  
Genesis 3:8-15, Psalm 130,  
2 Corinthians 4:13-5:1, Mark 3:20-35.

### June 17<sup>th</sup>, Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

1 Samuel 15:34-16:13, Psalm 20,  
Ezekiel 17:22-24, Psalm 92:1-4, 12-15,  
2 Corinthians 5:6-17, Mark 4:26-34.

### June 24<sup>th</sup>, Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

1 Samuel 17:1a, 4-11, 19-23, 32-49,  
Psalm 9:9-20, Job 38:1-11,  
Psalm 107:1-3, 23-32,  
2 Corinthians 6:1-13, Mark 4:35-41.

**To receive the UCC Daily Devotional by  
e-mail, follow this link:**

<http://www.ucc.org/feed-your-spirit/daily-devotional/>



### June

Theresa Moore	3 <sup>rd</sup>	Donna Koether	24 <sup>th</sup>
Laynee Parsell	4 <sup>th</sup>	Dylan Phillips	24 <sup>th</sup>
Andy Perillo	18 <sup>th</sup>	Holly Caritey	24 <sup>th</sup>
Christine Noell	18 <sup>th</sup>		

**Office Notes:** If your or your child's information is missing or incorrect in the Northwind birthday lists, the church directory or the all church email, please let me know so the information can be added or updated.

***Please remember to mark upcoming church events and committee meetings on the calendar on the kitchen counter, or call or email the church with any information that needs to be in the bulletins, all church emails or the Northwind.***

Thank you,

K.T. 'Sulli' Sullivan, Church Secretary

## JULY CHURCH CALENDAR

**Sunday, July 1<sup>st</sup>**

Worship 9:00 a.m.

**Wednesday, July 4<sup>th</sup>**

**Sunday, July 8<sup>th</sup>**

Worship 9:00 a.m.

**Sunday, July 15<sup>th</sup>**

Worship 9:00 a.m.

**Sunday, July 22<sup>nd</sup>**

Worship 9:00 a.m.

**Fourth Sunday Food Collection**

**Friday, July 27<sup>th</sup>**

Community Meal 6:00 p.m.

**Sunday, July 29<sup>th</sup>**

Worship 9:00 a.m.

**Tuesday, July 29<sup>th</sup>**

**Office Hours most weeks:**

Wednesdays and Thursdays

10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

or as posted\*.

## JULY

### LECTIONARY SCRIPTURE

**July 1st, Sixth Sunday after Pentecost**

2 Samuel 1:1, 17-27, Psalm 130,  
Song of Solomon 1:13-15, 2:23-24,  
Lamentations 3:22-33, Psalm 30,  
2 Corinthians 8:7-15, Mark 5:21-43.

**July 8<sup>th</sup>, Seventh Sunday after Pentecost**

2 Samuel 5:1-5, 9-10, Psalm 48,  
Ezekiel 2:1-5, Psalm 123,  
2 Corinthians 12:2-10, Mark 6:1-13.

**July 15<sup>th</sup>, Eighth Sunday after Pentecost**

2 Samuel 6:1-5, 12b-19, Psalm 24,  
Amos 7:7-15, Psalm 85:8-13,  
Ephesians 1:3-14, Mark 6:14-29.

**July 22<sup>nd</sup>, Ninth Sunday after Pentecost**

2 Samuel 7:1-14a, Psalm 89:20-37,  
Jeremiah 23:1-6, Psalm 23,  
Ephesians 2:11-22, Mark 6:30-34, 53-56.

**July 29<sup>th</sup>, Tenth Sunday after Pentecost**

2 Samuel 11:1-15, Psalm 14,  
2 Kings 4:42-44, Psalm 145:10-18,  
Ephesians 3:14-21, John 6:1-21.

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### July

Ben Pearson	11 <sup>th</sup>
Austin Ferguson	15 <sup>th</sup>
Matthew Fitzpatrick	23 <sup>rd</sup>
Emily Fitzpatrick	26 <sup>th</sup>
Dennis Phillips	27 <sup>th</sup>
Tom Goddu	30 <sup>th</sup>

**North Wind**

North Congregational Church  
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Worship/Church School Sundays 10:00 a.m.

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website: [www.northchurchucc.com](http://www.northchurchucc.com)

Facebook:

North Congregational Church, New Hartford, CT

Minister: Rev. John Madsen-Bibeau

(413) 657-4149

Shirley McCunn, Organist and Director of Music

George Schmidt, Sexton

K.T. Sullivan, Secretary