



# NORTH WIND

*Rejoicing in the Spirit ~ Celebrating Community*

North Congregational Church

New Hartford, CT 06057

April/May 2019

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## MODERATOR

Members and friends in Christ,

We at North Congregational Church are currently in a state of flux as we do not have a settled pastor. However, with the help of so many committed people, our congregation is able to offer weekly worship services and plan for the many activities that encourage community involvement. Please look elsewhere in this document for dates and times of Easter services and other upcoming events. Also check out the updated website at <https://northchurchucc.com/> and be sure to like us on Facebook.

We welcome Rev. Marcia Cox as supply minister through the Lenten season. For those who are new here, she was our interim minister 20 years ago. Rev. Arthur Yost and Rev. Betsy Mauro have also provided meaningful worship services this year.

Our regional minister, Rev. Tamara Moreland, met with the congregation on Feb 24 to help us brainstorm our path toward the future. A visioning committee was formed to continue that work, with Frank Owens as chairman. We hope to be able to attract a new settled pastor. However, other options include merging with another church, sharing a pastor, or renting to another congregation. A painful option, but one that needs to be considered seriously because of our dwindling endowment, is closing. To continue our spiritual work here in New Hartford, we need to ensure we have structural stability, spiritual stability, and financial stability. To that end, we are working with Rev. Tamara to call an interim minister to guide us forward.

We are grateful for the work that Rev. John Madsen-Bibeau accomplished during his time with us as interim in 2018. The next pastor can build on that work and with faith, set us in a positive direction for the future.

Miscellaneous happenings:

Over \$200 has been collected for Silver lake scholarships for any of our youth who are interested in summer camp. See your bulletin inserts or visit <https://www.silverlakeect.org/>

NCC is now a chartering organization for the Boy Scouts; Mark Perillo (Mr. Mark) led the way for this to occur.

The Craft Fair & Peach Fest will again be held in August on the Pine Meadow Green. Planning will begin soon.

Please take a look at the bulletin boards to keep up with UCC events, council minutes, and other information.

Susan Lachowicz, moderator

# DEACONS

## Spring Cleaning

As we look forward to warmer weather, many of us are turning our thoughts to birdsong, green shoots, digging in the garden, long walks in a light jacket (instead of down jackets and woolen scarves!), and, for some of us, spring cleaning,

I have started to “muck out” our basement (a long avoided chore!) by tackling the dust and disorder, and making decisions to part with item after item that we haven’t used or even looked at for many months. Experiencing the gratification of seeing a clean and spacious corner puts me in mind of the spiritual cleaning that we all need to do from time to time.

For in a way, our hearts, too, have dusty corners that are filled with things which take up space but which don’t serve a purpose anymore. Grimy boxes labeled “envy”, “resentment”, “greed”, “untruths”, “harshness”, “selfishness”, “prejudice” and many others are piled up in those dusty corners. How unhappy they make us feel when we do summon the courage to look at them! But just as we often find it difficult to get rid of some of our old, useless belongings, we often also have trouble letting go of our baser feelings.

The good news is: we don’t have to do it alone. God is always ready to listen to us when we come into God’s presence to unburden ourselves and to ask for help. As with any major cleaning project, breaking the inertia is the first step. A sincere and simple prayer can begin the “cleaning” process in our hearts. An example might be: “God, I am tired of holding on to resentment. Please help me to forgive my neighbor.” Or, as the psalmist so beautifully said, “Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit in me”.

Continuing both the physical and spiritual cleaning process takes energy and diligence. Here, too, God can be our companion, if we invite the Holy Spirit into our lives. By expressing our challenges to God and then listening for God’s guidance, we open ourselves to holy gifts of discernment, courage and endurance. As the old hymn says, “Take it to the Lord in prayer”.

The uplifting feeling we get when we’ve let go of old “stuff” and can gaze at a space that’s free and clean is so motivating that we’re usually moved to keep on working.

Wishing you the will to take the first steps of spring cleaning, the energy to keep at it, and the blessings of a clean heart and clean basement.

Fran Herman

p.s. Don’t forget to bring those basement items to the May Tag Sale!!!

## **FINANCE**

To supplement the monthly withdrawals of \$4000, we withdrew \$2500 on 1/25/19 and \$3000 on 2/21/19 from available endowment cash in order to cover bills.

We will be sending the Silver Lake scholarship special collection to the conference later this month.

Dave McCunn did some preliminary investigation in the use of Paypal by NCC.

- Account balances as of March 14, 2019
- Endowment (Wells Fargo): \$204,804
- Music fund (Wells Fargo): \$25,833
- CT UCC trust funds: \$66,892

Susan Lachowicz, Finance chairwoman

## **FELLOWSHIP**

January 26th: We had a Funeral Service for the Zenuh Family. We also served light refreshments.

January 27th was Rev. John's last day and we had a farewell party for him. On his request, I had balloons and a sugar free cake. He was very happy. His family attended and he received gifts from CE, Bible Study class, and the church congregation. It went very well.

January 24th: We had our community meal and we had a good attendance

February 14th: I had goodies for the children and adults. I also had balloons.

March 17th: Donna Howard brought Irish goodies for fellowship. We had Irish soda breads, green grapes, shamrock shaped cookies. Everyone enjoyed.

Food Bank donations: we received 210 lbs. of food in January and 82 lbs. in February.

Expenses: \$97.12 for Jan & Feb.

Donations: \$25.09 for Jan. & Feb.

Cele Hoffman, Chairperson

## TRUSTEES

Web page: The church webpage (<https://northchurchucc.com>) has been continually updated. The “Committees” section contains the latest Deacon of the month and Fellowship duty assignments. Recent North Wind newsletters are available online including this one. Examples of upcoming events include:

- The April 7th Farmington Valley Band Concert
- The April 26th Spring Community Meal
- The April 27th Greenwoods Consort “Evening with Shakespeare”
- The May 11th Annual Tag Sale

Anyone planning an event or wanting an article on our webpage please let me know. Colorful flyers and pictures are especially appreciated. Any pictures with children need parental approval.

### Grounds:

The annual fall cleanup scheduled for last November was cancelled due to inclement weather. Leaves were late and snow came early. A spring cleanup will be scheduled when fair weather returns. The Trustees will again take turns mowing the grass this summer.

### Buildings:

- The sanctuary flue pipe was repaired to prevent noxious fumes from entering the building.
- The kitchen was scrubbed clean and passed the health inspection with flying colors (thanks Dave, Dave & Cele). A small fire extinguisher was bought for the stove area. A larger one is in the hall near the ladies’ room. Everyone using the stove or oven should familiarize themselves with their locations.
- The old XEROX office printer finally gave up the ghost and went to printer heaven. It was replaced with a younger and more attractive Brothers B&W laser office quality printer with two paper trays.
- Please obey the Falling Snow Do Not Enter sign into Fellowship Hall. Falling snow from the roof is a real safety hazard. Hopefully we won’t have any more snow and it will be taken down soon.

### Other:

The tables set up in the basement for the tag sale are filling up fast. Tables will be moved downstairs to accommodate the extra items as necessary. Help will be needed to move everything upstairs before the Tag Sale (see above).

David McCunn, Trustee

## MISSIONS

Susan Lachowicz, finance chairwoman

Local level: Missions is planning two events for Spring.

April 28 — Earth Week Children's Chat will focus on planting trees, keeping in mind the devastating forest fires that have recently swept through our western states. We made a donation to the Arbor Day Foundation and in return will receive 10 spruce saplings. We will hand these out to the children attending the church service that day.

May 10 & 11 — Tag Sale & Rummage Sale. Posters and PR will begin first week of April. Donations are accumulating in the basement. (It is amazing what Spring cleaning turns up!) Please hold off on clothing and really large furniture until two weeks before. Much thanks!

- Fourth Sunday Food Collection: Cele and Dave Hoffman put grocery bags in the narthex, each with a list of items that the food banks need. We have collected over 200 lbs. of food for January/February but the need is always great. If you miss Fourth Sunday, put your donation in the box in the entryway to the Fellowship Hall. Thank you!
- Over the winter the Knitting Ministry (Donna Howard and Mary Wilson) completed two prayer shawls for severely ill folks and a christening blanket.
- State level:
  - \* Our UCC delegates — Gail Embrey, Clarence Moore and Donna — drove to the Litchfield North UCC meeting at North Canaan Church to hear Anne Frieze present her ordination paper. We voted for her ordination. She will continue to serve as a hospital/hospice chaplain.

National/International level:

- Donna and Gail attended Super Saturday TA1. "TA1" stands for "Together As One". This represents our combined UCC conferences of Connecticut, Massachusetts and Rhode Island. We voted to merge last year but we have not yet voted on a new name. Donna and Gail attended sessions on the Drug Overdose Crisis; 3 Roads to Fundraising — social media outreach, annual stewardship campaign and weekly giving, and grant writing for special projects; Higher Elevations in Communication within Your Church. We came back with many good ideas to share and will present some of these at envisioning committee meetings (to which everyone is invited).
- UCC special Sunday offerings continue.

Peace!

Donna Howard, Missions Co-chair

## MUSIC

It has been several months since we've had a newsletter so I am including some of the music events to show how central the music has been to our worshipping experience.

Thanksgiving and Christmas were very busy times for all our musicians. We hosted the Ecumenical Thanksgiving service and the St. Johns choir joined ours to sing two anthems. During Advent the choir broke the traditional cantata into three sections sung over three Sundays. This worked well for our limited rehearsal time. The choir also sang at the Christmas Eve service for the first time in several years.

The children presented a wonderful service with a Christmas pageant, carols and instrumentalists. We look forward to hearing them again on Easter Sunday.

Our worship music continues to thrive thanks to the dedication and talents of our choir. Currently it is preparing music for Lent, Maundy Thursday and Easter services. We move through a period of reflection during Lent to the joyful music of the resurrection with the music enhancing the wide range of emotions expressed during this transition. If you enjoy singing but are unable to commit on a weekly basis, please come and sing with us for our special Easter service.

We are blessed to have two concerts in April. The Farmington Valley Band will return to entertain us for the 11th year on Sunday, April 7th at 3pm. Once again it will be a free concert with donations requested. This concert has drawn in many members of the community who look forward to an afternoon of wonderful music in a variety of genres. Please try to attend and support our Music Outreach. The audience is invited for light refreshments after the concert.

On April 27th Nicole is organizing 'An Evening With Shakespeare' celebration featuring the Greenwood Consort playing Renaissance music with readings from Shakespeare's sonnets. Tickets will cost \$10 or \$20 a family. Food will be served. This too should not be missed! Funding for both concerts will be taken from the Restricted Music Fund.

Although spring hasn't completely arrived, we are already planning for the summer. The choir's last service will be in early June when it will present a Music Sunday. It will resume again after Labor Day. In July and August Holly McCann will once again play for the services.

I hope you will enjoy experiencing some of the wonderful music this season offers whether through hymn singing, listening or participating in special music.

Shirley McCunn

Organist/Choir Director

## NEIGHBORING CHURCHES' EVENTS

**Tuesday, January 22, 2019 thru Tuesday, April 16, 2019**

### **Alpha Course**

6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

April 2, 2019 – “How Does God Heal Today?”

Praise Christian Fellowship

52 New Hartford Road

Barkhamsted, CT 06063.

For more information or to sign up, please call the church office at 860-738-9039

or visit our website at [praisect.org](http://praisect.org).

**Saturday, April 13th, May 11th and June 1st, 2019**

### **First Church of Winsted**

95 North Main Street

Winsted, CT 06098

**Open mic** will run from 6-7 PM with the option of 1 to 3 songs up to a half hour depending on interest. Featured performers will begin at 7 PM with half hour ending at 10 PM at First Church of Winsted.

If you or your musical friends would like to be included in the line-up for Spring of 2019, have them email: [info@firstchurchofwinsted.org](mailto:info@firstchurchofwinsted.org). Sound equipment provided including a bass amp and keyboard. All performances are recorded and mp3 tracks provided to performers.

Steam Vent Café will be serving light dinners from 6-8 PM.

April 13th – Chinese Night (Menu to be determined.)

May 11th – Mexican Night (Choice of tortillas, fillings served with chips, salsa and desserts.)

June 1st – Picnic Night (Choice hamburgers, hot dogs with assorted condiments & toppings, summer salads and desserts.)

**Friday, April 26, 2019, North Canton Community United Methodist Church, 3 Case Street, North Canton, CT, 5:00 – 7:00 p.m.**

Chicken Dinner

Contact North Canton Community United Methodist for more information:

Phone: (860) 693-4589, Email: [nccumc@att.net](mailto:nccumc@att.net)

**Saturday, June 15, 2019, 11:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.**

**North Canton Community Methodist Church**

**3 Case Street, North Canton, CT**

Strawberry Festival

Contact North Canton Community United Methodist for more information:

Phone: (860) 693-4589, Email: [nccumc@att.net](mailto:nccumc@att.net)

## COMMUNITY EVENTS

### **BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP**

**‘The Path Through Grief’**

**Six Consecutive Tuesdays, March 26, 2019 through May 7, 2019**

**4:30 – 6:00 p.m.**

**Foothills Visiting Nurse & Home Care, Inc.**

32 Union Street

Winsted, CT 06098

The group is free and open to any adult who has experienced a loss through death.

Preregistration is necessary

Call Martha Babbitt at (8600 379-8561 for more information and to register.

**Monday, May 6, 2019, The Country Club of Waterbury, CT**

**1 Oronoke Road, Waterbury, CT 06708**

**13th Annual Silver Lake Conference Center Golf Tournament**

7:30 a.m. – Registration Begins – 2:00 p.m. Luncheon, Raffle and Awards

\$200 Entry Fee per person. Registration MUST be received by April 27, 2019.

Questions, call 860-364-5526.

See Suzanne in the North Congregational Church office for Entry/Sponsorship forms.

APRIL CHURCH CALENDAR

**Sunday, April 7th**

Worship 10:00 a.m.

Farmington Valley Band 3:00 p.m.

**Sunday, April 14th, Palm Sunday**

Worship 10:00 a.m.

**Thursday, April 18th, "The Meal In The Upper Room"**

6:00 p.m. Start, Family Friendly  
Light meal and service

**Sunday, April 21st, Easter**

Worship 10:00 a.m.

**Friday, April 26th**

Free Community Meal, 6:00-7:00 pm.

**Saturday, April 27th**

The Greenwoods Consort and North  
Congregational Church Present  
"An Evening with Shakespeare",  
6:00 – 8:30 p.m.

**Sunday, April 28th**

Worship 10:00 a.m.

**Fourth Sunday Food Collection**

**Office Hours most weeks:**

Wednesdays  
8:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Thursdays  
8:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.  
1:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

**or as posted\*.**

*April*

*Lectionary Scripture*

**April 7th, Fifth Sunday of Lent**

Isaiah 43: 16-21, Psalm 126,

Philippians 3:4b-14, John 12:1-8

**April 14th, Sixth Sunday of Lent, Palm Sunday**

Psalm 118:1-2, 19—29, **Luke 19:28-40**

(Liturgy of the Palms), Isaiah 50:4-9a,

Psalm 31:9-16, Philippians 2:5-11,

Luke 22:14-23 or *Luke 23:1-49/*

(Liturgy of the Passion)

**April 21st, Easter**

Acts 10:34-43 or Isaiah 65:17-25,

Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24,

1 Corinthians 15:19-26 or Acts *10:34-43,*

John 20:1-18, or *Luke 24:1-12.*

**April 28th, Second Sunday of Easter**

Acts 5:27-32, Psalm 118:14-29 or *Psalm 150,*

Revelations 1:4-8, John 20:19-31.



**April**

Dave Brunt 3<sup>rd</sup>

Sue Cary 10<sup>th</sup>

Reid Sullivan 14<sup>th</sup>

Brook Ferguson 23<sup>rd</sup>

MAY CHURCH CALENDAR

**Sunday, May 5<sup>th</sup>**

Worship 10:00 a.m.

**Friday, May 10<sup>th</sup> & Saturday, May 11<sup>th</sup>**

Annual Fundraiser Tag Sale

**Sunday, May 12<sup>th</sup>**

Worship 10:00 a.m.

**Sunday, May 19<sup>th</sup>**

Worship 10:00 a.m.

**Sunday, May 26<sup>th</sup>**

Worship 10:00 a.m.

**Fourth Sunday Food Collection**

**Monday, May 27<sup>th</sup>**

**Memorial Day**

**Office Hours most weeks:**

Wednesdays

8:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Thursdays

8:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

1:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

**or as posted\*.**

*May*

*Lectionary Scripture*

**May 5<sup>th</sup>, Third Sunday of Easter**

Acts 9:1-6 (7-20), Psalm 30,

Revelations 5:11-14, John 21:1-19.

**May 12<sup>th</sup>, Fourth Sunday of Easter**

Psalm 23, Revelations 7:9-17,

John 10:22-30.

**May 19<sup>th</sup>, Fifth Sunday of Easter**

Act 11:1-8, Psalm 148, Revelations 21:1-6,

John 13:31-35.

**July 26<sup>th</sup>, Sixth Sunday of Easter**

Acts 16:9-15, Psalm 67,

Revelations 21:10, 22-22:5, John 14:23-29

or *John 5:1-9*

**To receive the UCC Daily Devotional by**

**e-mail, follow this link:**

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



**May**

- Jennifer Zenuh 14<sup>th</sup>
- Whitney Heuschkel 18<sup>th</sup>
- Lisa Barbieri 23<sup>rd</sup>
- Frances Phelps 24<sup>th</sup>
- Colby Brunt 25<sup>th</sup>
- Virginia Yoon 28<sup>th</sup>

*North Wind*

North Congregational Church  
17 Church St., North  
PO Box 307  
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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

Shirley McCunn, Organist and Director of Music

Suzanne Czerwinski, Secretary

Nicole Misko, C.E. Director

**Office Notes:** If you 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,

Suzanne Czerwinski, Church Secretary

*Thank you Joan Egbertson for passing this on!*



**THE GOOD SHEPHERD UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**

December 20, 2018

Greetings,

Last weekend we participated in a beautiful Bi-national Posada in Nogales, Mexico. The Posada is a Latin American tradition that has Mary and Joseph walking through the community, knocking on neighborhood doors asking if there is any room for them to rest. The community accompanies them as songs are sung and prayers are said. It was particularly powerful this year as we walked along the Border Wall, Mary and Joseph symbolically knocked on the door of the United States to see if there was any room---any hospitality?

For the past 18 years The Good Shepherd United Church of Christ has without hesitation been responding to the knock on the door with hospitality and humanitarian assistance to our migrant friends that have been making their way through our community. We believe it is our Christian commitment and responsibility to "welcome the stranger." So we do it boldly and without apology.

In these days, immigration has become a hot political issue in the United States, as violence, despair and struggle in Central America and Mexico continues to spin out of control. We see the suffering and misery first hand. We have seen the arrival at the border of unaccompanied minors, the separation of parents from their children and the endless line of asylum seekers legally petitioning their case.

Over the past six months we have been actively involved in offering direct assistance to thousands of people at the border as the US Government has slowed the asylum process down and are keeping people in detention longer. This has pushed the faith and humanitarian community to open five shelters in Nogales, Mexico.

Because of your financial support and the sending of supplies we have been able to make weekly trips to the shelters to deliver the much needed toiletries, towels, blankets, jackets, and clothing. We thank you for being a partner in this ministry in this critical moment of need.

We believe that the Borderlands continues to be the safest, most beautiful and diverse place in our country and the hospitality and goodwill to our migrant friends continues to be the bright spot in this challenging but powerfully positive time. As people of faith we have no choice but to offer our love and hospitality. Thank you for living out your faith and sending your good will.

With you on the Journey,

Rev. Randy Mayer and the Green Valley/Sahuarita Samaritans



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