

THE EVANGEL

WE ARE CALLED TO BE A WELCOMING COMMUNITY OF LOVING SERVANTS OF JESUS CHRIST

Sunday Worship

Join us on Sunday mornings at 9:30am, in person or online, for worship, renewal and Christian fellowship. More information regarding our service and programming can be found online at numc.us.

Saint of the Month

For March our **SAINT OF THE MONTH** is Susan Miles for the indefatigable effort she has, and continues to put forth, as our Church Treasurer. Susan's behind the scenes ministry is so vital and important... not to mention time-consuming. Please give Susan a big share of your gratitude for this and so much more this month.



Evangel Deadline

The deadline for the April Evangel is March 22.

HOLY WEEK

Services

PALM SUNDAY March 24.

Sunday morning worship at 9:30am. We celebrate Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem with overtones of his impending crucifixion, using Palm branches and remembering what our Lord endured for the whole world.



MAUNDY THURSDAY March 28 at 7pm. An evening service celebrated with Holy Communion.

PRAYER VIGIL March 28 - March 29. A continuous, 24 hour vigil as we kneel/sit beside our Lord as he enters his final hours as Emmanuel, beginning at the conclusion of the Maundy Thursday service and ending as the Good Friday service begins. A sign-up sheet will be available in the narthex.

GOOD FRIDAY March 29 at 7pm. We will worship and observe the crucifixion of our Lord and Savior using the Service of Tenebrae, (the Service of Shadows) as the candles are extinguished one by one and our Lord arrives closer to his triumphant death and his and our eternal triumph.

EASTER MORNING March 31.

A simple, service in the memorial garden beginning at 7am, celebrating as the women who approached Christ's tomb as the sun rose and found the tomb empty! The service should last about half an hour, so bring chairs if you feel the need.

A service including the Easter story, beautiful music, flowers and a special children's conversation beginning at 9:30am. Come and celebrate with us and with grand joy as we sing and praise our Risen Lord and Savior!

PASTOR'S PAGE



*He lives, he lives, Christ Jesus lives today!
He walks with me and talks with me along life's narrow way.
He lives, he lives, salvation to impart!
You ask me how I know he lives? He lives within my heart.*
(*"He Lives"*, Alfred H. Ackley, 1933, #310, UMC Hymnal)

That's the whole reason for celebrating at Easter. We do not serve a dead and buried demigod. We do not celebrate the life of a delusional, but very good man. We do not shout "Hallelujah!" in response to a glorified "faith-healer" who happened to be an exceptionally charismatic teacher. We serve, celebrate and shout "Hallelujah!" because the Son of Man, the Son of God, the risen, living Lord Jesus Christ is alive!

Easter comes at a very appropriate time of the year for us in the Northern Hemisphere. Easter is a harbinger, a foretelling of the newness of life that is Spring. So that not only do our hearts and voices proclaim, "Hallelujah! Glory be to the Risen, Conquering King!", but so will the flowers, the birds, the trees and even the little wiggly things that crawl over all the earth! All will proclaim loudly and with one voice that the very one who created them, who died on a cruel cross, is as alive today as he has been from the beginning of Creation.

We may even be able to understand that new beginnings are possible even for us. Perhaps we can use Jesus' resurrection as a filter through which we can see our lives in a whole new way. It may be possible that we could begin to realize that throughout our lives of faith that there have always been "resurrection moments"; times when God's "aliveness" and presence is clearly felt and we are flooded with God's love and the blessing of God's faithfulness to us. These can be times of growth, of healing, of opportunities to start over, being renewed and restored. Moments like the birth of a child, death of a loved one, forgiveness, looking deeply into the eyes of the one you love, Scripture reading, deep prayer, the Lord's Supper, Baptism, can be "resurrection moments", sacred and holy moments that inspire thoughts that God is God and we are God's children.

These "resurrection moments" and so many more like them can all become reminders and harbingers of the final resurrection when we shall all be changed, when this "mortal body must put on immortality" and we meet our Risen Lord. It is this hope that believers have that enables them to say not, "Good bye", but rather, "See you soon." It is the hope and promise of Easter, of Spring, of the Lord our God.

Make every effort this year to listen. Perhaps this is the year you hear again or for the first time the daffodils, tulips, robins, cardinals and caterpillars who sing, "He lives! He lives! Christ Jesus lives today!" Let us never tire of singing along with them through the Spring and on into Winter, and beyond! Hallelujah!!

Yours in the Power of the Risen Lord Jesus Christ,



Office News

The pastor holds the following office hours:

Monday - Thursday
9:30am to 12:30pm

Fridays
Off

No appointment necessary.

If the door is closed, simply knock!

As always, Pastor Steve can be reached at revsev62@sbcglobal.net and at 203.232.2752.

Rae continues to be in the office on Tuesdays and Fridays, 9:30am to 12:30pm. For March, she will be out of the office on Friday, March 8 and Friday, March 29 (Good Friday)

Daylight Saving Time

Following the Corned Beef & Cabbage dinner on Saturday, March 9th, don't forget to set your clocks forward an hour before heading to bed! Daylight Saving Time begins at 2am on March 10.

The More You Know...

Our AED is located on the bridge as indicated by new signage at various points around the building. Our training emphasized not to be intimidated when using the machine as step by step instructions are very clear. In case of emergency call 911, start chest compression, and follow AED oral instructions. The Trustees monitor replacement of its battery and pads as needed.

EASTER PREPARATIONS!

It's Time to Order Flowers to beautify the altar for Easter!

Type	Size	# of	Price	Total Price
Easter Lily	6"		\$13	
Easter Lily	8"		\$33	
Tulip	6"		\$10	
Tulip	8"		\$17	
Hyacinth	6"		\$10	
Hyacinth	8"		\$17	
Tete - tete	4"		\$7	
Daffodil	6"		\$10	
Daffodil	8"		\$17	
Hydrangea	6"		\$20	
Total # or Plants			Total \$	

Orders must be received no later than March 10

I would like the bulletin to read:

Dedicated by: _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____





A from Your Minister of Music

Keith Getty and Stuart Townsend wrote this hymn, published in 2005.

"The Power of the Cross" is in our Worship & Song Hymnal

Oh, to see the dawn of the darkest day; Christ on the road to Calvary. Tried by sinful men, torn and beaten, then nailed to a cross of wood. Oh, to see my name written in the wounds, for through your suffering I am free. Death is crushed to death, life is mine to live, won through your selfless love! The power of the cross; Christ became sin for us. Took the blame, bore the wrath, we stand forgiven at the cross.

May we walk with Jesus toward the cross this Lenten season, and know we are forgiven, and loved unconditionally by our God.

Blessings, Sue



REGISTER NOW!

NUMC & Wesley Learning Center are coming together for our annual Easter Egg Hunt! Join us in Rauner Hall on **Saturday morning, March 23 from 9:30 to 11am.**

In addition to the hunt, children can have their picture taken with the bunny, participate in a craft, and take part in a visit from a Newtown fire truck. A light snack will also be provided.

RSVP online at numc.us.
The deadline to register is March 11.



GOOD FOOD, GOOD FUN!

Corned Beef & Cabbage

Experience Irish music and dance while you enjoy your St. Patrick's Day dinner at NUMC! Join us in person, **Saturday, March 9 from 4pm to 7pm.**

MENU

Corned Beef Brisket
Garden Salad
Cabbage
Potatoes
Carrots
Roll
Dessert

PRICING

Adults \$17
Seniors 62 & Older \$16
Kids 12 and under &8

This month we will be featuring a performance by The Ashurst Academy of Irish Dance (6-6:30pm) with bagpipe music scattered throughout the evening.

For those who can't linger, Contact Candice Rothe @ 203-217-9732 to reserve your takeaway order.

Help is also needed to make the evening a success so please consider [volunteering](#). It's a great way for youth to receive community service hours and a great time for adults to fellowship together!

And don't forget... we will be collecting donations of non-perishable food items to benefit Faith Food Pantry.

Thank you for your support!



SHAKE
YOUR
Shamrocks!

Birthdays & Anniversaries

- 3/1 Vincent & Sandy Venitelli 🍷
 3/2 Alan Pearlman
 3/6 Jordan D'Amico
 Caroline Malin
 3/7 Barb Carlson woot woot! 🎉
 Cheryl Ghent
 3/8 Alex Trumpeta
 3/11 Julie Barbeau
 Elaine Landau
 3/14 Marvin Paige
 3/15 Gary & Kathi Weller 🍷
 Dan Wiedemann
 3/17 Betsy Paynter
 Jackie Stakel
 3/18 Emily Blewett
 3/20 Jerry & PJ Yochum 🍷
 3/21 Sarah Lynch
 3/23 Heidi Poarch
 Peter Masella wow! 🎉
 3/24 Steve Agnew
 Karan Goodhue
 Kendra Kilson
 3/26 Mel & Dorothy Kramer-
 Kawakami 🍷
 3/27 Alek Budd
 3/28 Ryan Clancy
 Cindy Rice milestone 🎉
 3/31 Courtney Carlson
 Tracey McManus
 Charlotte Springmeyer

COFFEE & CONVERSATION

Calling all ladies! You are invited to our next Coffee & Conversation event. Grab your favorite hot (or cold) beverage and join us in the Betts room at 10am on Tuesday, March 5. We look forward to seeing you there!



LEARN TO MEDITATE 2

Our first offering of Learn to Mediate was a great success so we are all set for **Learn to Meditate 2 on Wednesday, March 20 at 7pm** in the Betts room. Jim Willis, our mindfulness guide, will lead us on the 2nd part of our journey.

Once again, we ask that you RSVP directly to Jim at 203.518.3724.

This event is open to the community at large so we encourage you to spread the word and invite others to attend. And, of course... *don't forget your pillow!*

MISSION & OUTREACH

Mission and Outreach is appreciative and grateful for the many donations that were made towards the purchase of Bibles for our servicemen and women. Your donations made it possible for over 110 Bibles to be presented.

Your generosity will make a great impact on the well being for all those who serve.

Thank you for your Christian love,

Lynette



SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT...

from the Founder of Methodism, Rev. John Wesley

"One great reason why the rich in general have so little sympathy for the poor is because they so seldom visit them. Hence it is that one part of the world does not know what the other suffers. Many of them do not know, because they do not care to know: they keep out of the way of knowing it - and then plead their voluntary ignorance as an excuse for their hardness of heart."



WLC News

Good Afternoon Church Family,

March is a busy time as we prepare to move our clocks forward, welcome spring, and celebrate all March has to offer!

On Tuesday, March 12th at 10am we'll celebrate St. Paddy's Day with a visit from the Ashurst Academy of Irish Dance. If you miss the opportunity to see them perform at the Corned Beef & Cabbage dinner, feel free to join us!

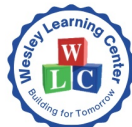
Closing out the month is Easter and we are excited to co-host the annual Egg Hunt on Saturday, March 23 (*We hope to see you there!*). This event is a lot of fun and as of writing we have 59 kids registered! That's a lot of eggs to hide!

This month we also continue with our "Key to Kindness" projects and the fours class has voted to collect coins for the Newtown Animal Shelter. They will incorporate learning by counting, sorting and identifying coins before donating to the shelter.

As always, thank you for your ongoing support of WLC.

Diane Fuchs
Director, Wesley Learning Center,
a NAEYC accredited program for
children ages 2 to 6.

wesleyfuchs@gmail.com
203.426.6149



A NEW BIBLE STUDY

"God Never Gives Up On You", by Max Lucado
Beginning Tuesday, April 2 at 7pm

Have you ever wondered if you've had one too many stumbles for God to use someone like you? Have you ever worried that you've made the wrong decisions in life and there is no way back for you? Have you ever questioned if God can really use you in spite of your mistakes? If so, the tale of God's unending, unbending, unswerving grace and devotion in the story of Jacob is just what you need.

God Never Gives Up on You is a five-session study tailor-made for the members of the "Lost Halo Society." It's for the strugglers among us and the fumbler within us. It's for those who are part saint . . . and part scoundrel. It's for those who mean well but don't always do well. And it's for those who could use a refresher course on how God enacts his perfect plan in this world by working through imperfect people.

In this study, bestselling author Max Lucado will reveal how God used Jacob--the misbehaving patriarch who was strong on savvy but low on conscience--simply because God chose to use Jacob. Period. The word for such devotion? Grace. Grace came after Jacob. Grace found him in the desert. Grace protected him in exile. Grace wrestled him to the ground and blessed him. Grace led him home to Canaan.

Jacob's story invites us to likewise believe in a God who sticks with the unworthy and underachievers until we are safely at home.

The cost for the book is still being determined, but if you are interested or have any questions, please reach out to Pastor Steve.

Church Staff
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