



“Come,
Learn from Me”
Matthew 11:29

Connections—February 11, 2018

Wethersfield UMC MISSION STATEMENT

To equip all to joyfully grow their faith, seek God’s will and serve others within a welcoming community centered on Jesus Christ.

2017-2018 Theme: Come, Learn From Me

<i>Pastor</i>	The Rev. Albert Hahn
<i>Administrative Asst.</i>	Dana Mysliwicz
<i>Children’s Ministry</i>	Beth Warweg
<i>Older Adult Ministry</i>	Jan Ironside
<i>Youth Ministry</i>	Jude Exantus
<i>Music Ministry</i>	Michael Gowdy
<i>Custodial Services</i>	Tom Pettengill

Worship Schedule

Morning Glory Service (FLC): 8:45 a.m.
“Fellowship Time” at 8:30 a.m. in the FLC.

Sunday School/Small Groups: 9:30 a.m.

Traditional Service (Sanctuary): 10:30 a.m.
“Fellowship Time” to follow service in the FLC.

Ash Wednesday, February 14th Simple Soup Supper and Service

Enjoy a meal together! Share, talk, pray!



Ash Wednesday is February 14th.
Begin your Lenten journey in fellowship and worship. We will have a Potluck Bread and Soup Dinner at 6:00 p.m., with a Service of Ashes to follow at 7:00 p.m. If you can, please bring a soup to share. All are welcome. See you there.

COFFEE
FELLOWSHIP

Join us!



If your last name begins with the letters indicated for the Sunday, please bring a snack to share.

1st Sunday: A—D

2nd Sunday: E—H

3rd Sunday: I—R

4th Sunday: S—Z

5th Sunday: Church Committees

Essential Questions in Christian Journey Lent Sermon Series

Ash Wednesday (February 14): Reference Point Bias

February 18: What Do We Remember? (Genesis 9:8-17, Mark 1:9-15)

February 25: Where Are We Headed to? (Romans 4:13-25, Mark 8:31-38)

March 4: What Are Unacceptable Behaviors? (Exodus 20:1-17, John 2:13-22)

March 11: What Poisons Us? What Gives Us Life? (Number 21:4-9, John 3:14-21)

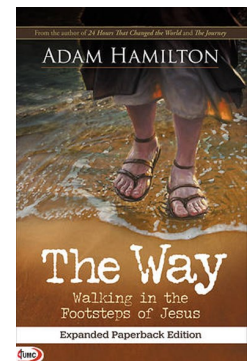
March 18: What Do We Trust? (Jeremiah 31:31-34, John 12:20-33)

March 25: (Palm/Passion Sunday): How Much Are We Willing to Bet?
(Mark 11:1-11, Philippians 2:5-11)

‘Word’ly Women Small Group

The **‘Word’ly Women** small group would like to invite the women of the church to join them for the Lenten bible study *“The Way...Walking in the Footsteps of Jesus”* by Adam Hamilton. Travel with Adam Hamilton as he retraces the life and ministry of Jesus Christ.

Fascinating video from his personal travels to the Holy Land give you a “first-person” experience while his biblical wisdom and historical knowledge provide thoughtful and insightful commentary. This study will help us focus on Jesus, who he was and what he did, during our preparation for Holy week and Easter.



Please sign up on the sheet posted on the Community Connections Board. The study will take place on six Mondays. (**February 19, 2018 thru March 26, 2018**). The morning class is from 9:15—10:45 a.m. and the evening class is from 6:30—8:00 p.m. This is a 6 week study. Each session is comprised of a short DVD, a book and a time of discussion. The study guide costs \$10 which will be collected at the first session. Don't let the cost of the book stop you from attending this study....we will work it out! The first session is open to everyone who is considering this study. Come see if this study is for you and then decide after the first session.

Music Opportunity

Do you love music? Would you like sing but can't commit long-term? Well come out and be part of choir during the Lent and Easter season! We rehearse on Thursday nights at 7:30 p.m. We are preparing some wonderful music for Lent and Easter and we would love you to be a part of it. Even if you can only come to a few rehearsals, talk to Mike or e-mail him at mgowdy@wethersfieldchurch.org.

Warm Socks for Loaves and Fishes

For many years WUMC has taken winter hats, knitted by our Creative Pastimes/ Prayer Shawl Ministry, to this Hartford soup kitchen. Warm winter socks, more than white athletic thinner ones, are also appreciated, as well as toiletries and disposable razors. Since socks are harder to knit, we ask you to please donate them. A collection box will be near the office until we deliver them in mid winter. Thanks as always for the generous hearts of this congregation. Grace Hayes

The deadline to drop your donation off is Sunday, February 25th. Sharon Richwine and a group will be going to Loaves and Fishes in Hartford on **Tuesday, February 27th**. If you would like to join them, please contact Sharon.

Church Storage Areas Clean-Up



We will be having a clean-up day on **Saturday, February 17th from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.**, for the storage areas of the church specifically the ledge in the storage area across from Classroom A and the storage area behind Classroom A. If your group has items stored in these areas, please make sure that there is a representative from your group there during that time. If you have any questions, please contact Mike Rooslund, Trustee, at marooslund@att.net.

Care Packages of College Students

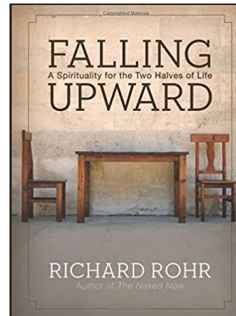
Early in the year, I mail "care packages" to each of our 16 college students. If you would like to participate in this ministry, please pick up a card from the information board. There will be a box in the hallway for your donations; please bring them in by February 18. The mailing boxes that I fill are 6" X 6" X 6." Thank you! If you have any questions, please call Emily Celino at 860 665-7199.

Falling Upward: A Spirituality for the Two Halves of Life

Wednesdays 7:00 to 8:15 p.m. in Fireside Room

Book by Richard Rohr

Study led by Rev. Albert Hahn



“Failure is not an option,” says our inner voice as we face challenges of our life. Yet, we also understand that “failure is a necessity.” With an odd image of “falling upward,” Richard Rohr guides us in our reflection to re-examine our approach to failure, loss, suffering, emptiness and death. As we enter into the season of Lent, let me invite you to reflect with me how the prodigal son was able to find his new home only after he left his original home and why we are called to lose our own lives to find an eternal life. My prayer is that we will learn not to run away from the problems (failure, rejection, loss, insecurity and even death) of our lives, but to embrace them as one of the stations in our journey. The book is available at the Connection Board for \$14. Please make a check to “WUMC” and leave it in the envelop next to the books.”

February 14th: (Ash Wednesday): Reference Point Bias

February 21st : Leaving Home to Find a True Home (Chapters 1-3)

February 28th: Vain Pursuit of Happiness (Chapters 4 & 5)

March 7th: Elimination of Human Suffering? (Chapter 6 & 7)

March 14th: Life is meant to be simple. (Chapter 8-10)

March 21st: Falling Upward (Chapters 11-13)

Amrein Scholarship News

The Amrein Scholarship Committee has decided not to do the fruit drive, but will depend on the congregation supporting a scholarship with its annual offering. Offering envelopes will be with the church bulletin on **April 22, 2018**. The scholarship will be presented on **June 24th** during the 10:30 a.m. worship service. Applications must be in the church office by **June 1, 2018**. Thank you for your support over the years.

There are other UMC scholarship opportunities. Please check out <http://www.gbhem.org/loans-and-scholarships/scholarships>. Those applications must be in by **March 1st**.

Women's Small Group

The Women's Small Group on **Sunday morning** is beginning a new study by Tom Berlin called *Six Decisions That Will Change your Life*. We will be challenged to examine our lives and how to follow Christ. We meet in the Fireside Room from **9:35—10:20 a.m.** and all women are welcome. Please join us! If you have any questions, please call Emily Celino at 860 665-7199.

Senior "Ladies Out to Lunch"

Senior "Ladies Out to Lunch" bunch will meet at Dakota in Rocky Hill at 11:30 a.m. in Rocky Hill on **Thursday, February 15th**. Please let Jan Ironside know if you plan on joining us.

Harvest of the Heart Cook-in Saturday, March 17th @ 9:00—11:30 a.m. It is time to restock the church's freezer!



Harvest of the Heart is WUMC's frozen food ministry.

Volunteers gather together on a Saturday morning to prepare soups, breads and main entree casseroles to freeze. The food is then used wherever it is needed by the Pastor and the congregation. The kitchen will be ready with recipes, ingredients, utensils and directions. **No cooking experience is needed....just a desire to serve!**

Look for the sign-up sheet on the Community Connections Board. If you would like to be involved in the planning, shopping or set-up work prior to the actual cook-in, please contact Deb Draizen at 860-593-7559 or email at draizen@sbcglobal.net.

Announcement from SPRC

Dana Mysliwiec has informed Pastor Hahn and SPRC that she will be leaving her position as WUMC Administrative Assistant to pursue another career opportunity. Her last day will be February 16, 2018. Dana has spent the last thirteen years with our church family and she will absolutely be missed. As she transitions this coming week, please join us in congratulating her on her new opportunity and wishing her all the best with her future endeavors.

When Dana informed us of this news, she said she was grateful for the thirteen years of employment here and grateful for the relationships which have been fostered with so many people. She wishes all the best to everyone at WUMC. We echo the very same sentiments to Dana.

Pastor Hahn & SPRC

Request for Volunteers: We are requesting volunteers to assist with critical administrative functions in the short term, while we begin the posting and recruiting process to fill this position. If you are interested in volunteering to help, please speak with Pastor Hahn. Thank you.

Pastoral Transition Update

SPRC was invited to meet with District Superintendent Reverend Alpher Sylvester on February 3rd to discuss the expectations we have for our next pastoral appointment here at WUMC. We had an in-depth discussion with him and shared results from the Pastoral Expectations Survey and the several roundtable discussions we conducted. We feel the District Superintendent has a clear understanding of our needs and our pastoral priorities. The roundtable discussions planned for this Sunday and 2/18 will still occur, as we informed Rev. Sylvester that we would send additional feedback to him as we collect it.

Thank you all for your input and engagement during this transition period.

SPRC

New Pastor Expectations - Roundtable Discussions

Date	Time	Location
February 11, 2018	11:45am - 12:30	Fireside Lounge
February 18, 2018	11:45am - 12:30	Fireside Lounge

Survey Results

Pastoral Talents & Priorities

- 1.9 Spiritual Leadership & Worship
- 3.5 Outreach
- 4.0 Youth Ministry
- 4.2 Administration
- 4.4 Christian Education
- 4.5 Counseling
- 5.1 Personal Attributes

[low number is highest priority]

SAVE THE DATE!

Annual Turkey Dinner With All The Fixins



Saturday, March 3rd

4:30—7:00 p.m.

Open Seating

\$14.00/Adults \$7.00/Children

Celebrations!

Birthdays

- 02/13 Harper Bolingbroke
- 02/13 Anne Skarbek
- 02/14 Peter Gaulton
- 02/15 Deb Draizen
- 02/16 Robert Powell

CALENDAR

SUNDAY, February 11

Morning Glory Service @ 8:45 a.m.
Children/Youth Sunday School @ 9:30 a.m.
Bible Studies/Confirmation Class @ 9:30 a.m.
Traditional Worship Service @ 10:30 a.m.
Children's Church @ 10:45 a.m.
New Pastor Roundtable Discussion (Fireside Room) @ 11:45—12:30 a.m.
MYF @ 12:00—1:30 p.m.

MONDAY, February 12

'Word'ly Women's Bible Study (Morning) @ 9:15—10:45 a.m.
'Word'ly Women's Bible Study (Evening) @ 6:30—8:00 p.m.
FLC in Use/Ping Pong @ 7:00—9:00 p.m.

TUESDAY, February 13

Old Fellowship Hall in Use/NA Meeting @ 7:00 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, February 14

Ash Wednesday Soup Dinner @ 6:00 p.m.
Ash Wednesday Service @ 7:00 p.m.

THURSDAY, February 15

Morning Prayer Group @ 8:30 a.m.
"Ladies Out to Lunch" at 11:30 a.m.
Creative Pastimes/Prayer Shawl Ministry @ 1:00—3:00 p.m.
Praise Band Practice @ 6:15 p.m.
Bells Practice @ 6:30 p.m.
Chancel Choir @ 7:30 p.m.

FRIDAY, February 16

No Preschool

SATURDAY, February 17

Church Storage Clean-Up @ 9:00 a.m.—12:00 p.m.

SUNDAY, February 18

Morning Glory Service @ 8:45 a.m.
Children/Youth Sunday School @ 9:30 a.m.
Bible Studies/Confirmation Class @ 9:30 a.m.
Traditional Worship Service @ 10:30 a.m.
Children's Church @ 10:45 a.m.
New Pastor Roundtable Discussion (Fireside Room) @ 11:45—12:30 a.m.