

The Parish Herald

Newsletter of the
First United Methodist Church
Meriden, Connecticut

Ric Hanse
Pastor

September 2018

PASTOR'S P O S T S

Well, it has happened. School is back in session. Meetings and more meetings are happening again. Summer Vacation 2018 is a past tense reality. The busyness that replaces those lazy, hazy, wonderfully crazy days of summer vacation is back. Even though fall does not officially begin until 23 September, for all intents and purposes, summertime is over.

Throughout the wonderful week of our Youth Mission trip to H.O.M.E. in Orland, Maine, our trip leader, Jim Hazlett kept asking us, "What about this mission trip makes you come alive?"

During this trip, our kids (and we grownups!) worked harder than we do during the typical school day. While it was a great week, while it was a hazy, hot and humid week, it was definitely not a lazy week of summer.

Back to Jim's question. I did not have to think long before I knew my answer. What makes me come alive on each mission trip is teaching our children a skill that my Father-in-law (the late master craftsman John Cordes) taught me during the six years I apprenticed with him. Whenever I am on a mission trip, all of skills I learned from Dad Cordes

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come back to me. Better still, some of the great tricks he taught me enter once again into my mind. In Maine, God gave me honor of passing those carpentry skills and tricks on to my work team just as Dad passed them on to me. So my team learned how to cut and hang sheetrock, and then tape and spackle. We sheetrocked and spackled all of the walls of what would be a stained glass workshop.

Summertime may be over, and your schedule may already be overfull, but please take a few moments to ask yourself, "What made you come alive this summer?" I promise you there is something. Worse than having summer come to a conclusion is to have summertime end without an awareness of what our heavenly Father did for us this summer to make us come alive in Jesus.

Now that we are back into the swing of our full time Church Life, please keep asking yourself what makes you come alive? And then, together, let's figure out how to do that in our First Church Meriden Family. Summer's over, but Jesus' refreshing, lifegiving love lasts all year!

Affectionately

Ric

RESUME 10:00 WORSHIP



**Sunday, September 9th we resume
10:00 am Worship.**

SUNDAY SCHOOL

September 16th is the first day of Sunday School. We are always encouraging more parents and adults and help teach or co-teach our classrooms.

CONFIRMATION CLASS

Children in eighth grade and up have the opportunity to experience the presence of Jesus in new and deeper ways as they discover what it means to love and follow Jesus with all their hearts. Pastor Ric will lead this exciting group on Sundays from 11:30 am-12:30 pm. There will be a parent/child orientation on Sunday, 30 September at 11:30 am in the Wesley Room.

YOUTH NEWS

The Youth Group is open for **all youth** from grades 4 through High School. All Junior & Senior High youth of the Church and their friends are welcome. If you have any questions please contact Jim Hazlett at 860.324.2588 or email at jhazlett1222@gmail.com.

- 26-Aug Back to School Party
- 2-Sep Labor Day Weekend Labor
- 8-Sep Mission Trip Dinner

FOCUS ON WOMEN

Unit 4 will meet Monday, **September 10th**, 12:00 pm for a pot luck luncheon. All women are most welcome.

UMW Luncheon Sunday, September 30. All ladies and gentlemen are invited to a UMW luncheon. We have a very special guest speaker, Donna Lopiano, (Tom Lopiano's sister). She has been involved in sports management for years, facilitating sports development, gender equality, and strategic planning for colleges and universities. Donna is currently the president of Sports Management Resources. Tickets are \$10, see Deb Molloy or Cindy Lopiano. *Donna A. Lopiano*, Ph.D. is the president of *Sports Management Resources*, a consulting firm that brings the knowledge of experienced former sport directors and sports management experts to assist colleges and universities in athletics program strategic planning, gender equity, growth and development challenges. With Connee Zotos, she authored the Athletic Director's Desk Reference, a

comprehensive policy compilation and handbook, among numerous other publications and resources. She is nationally recognized for her gender equity expertise, often called upon to provide expert testimony in court and before Congress, and present at conferences.

MEN'S NOTES

Brothers in Christ: Bible study, support & encouragement. The goal is to grow in our responsiveness to Jesus Christ in all aspects of our lives. We meet on the 1st and 3rd Saturdays of each month, 8:00 am in the Parish House. If you have any questions or need additional information please see Hal Quigley. All men warmly welcomed.

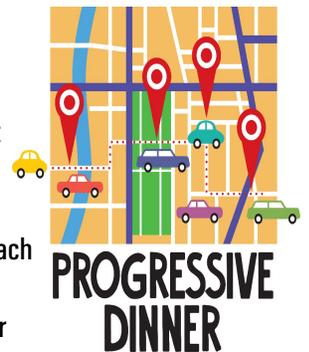
ADULT FELLOWSHIP

Fun get together - lunch at **Lenny & Joe's Fish Tale**, 1301 Boston Post Road, Madison. **Wednesday September 5th** at Lenny & Joe's 1:00 pm. All are welcome. Any questions contact Rosanne Knapp, (203) 886-8091, or Wayne Smith, (203) 757-4214. Sign up in Roger's Memorial.

The **FUMC Walking Group** will have their final walk at the **Church Picnic!** The trail at the park is bike friendly! **Adults and kids are welcome!!** We have met every month to walk and support one another as many of us have changed and improved our health habits! Questions? Call or text Mary at (860) 638-8781

INTERFAITH PROGRESSIVE DINNER:

September 22nd is the date of our next Interfaith Progressive Dinner. The evening will begin promptly at 5PM with the first course at FUMC. Main course at Immanuel Lutheran and dessert/entertainment will be at St. Andrews. Evening over by 8PM. We are asking for donations of canned goods which will be collected at our church at the start of the evening. Tickets are \$8 each but there is a limited number of tickets for each church. Tickets are available from Joann Myers, Sue Winchell or Holly Wishart

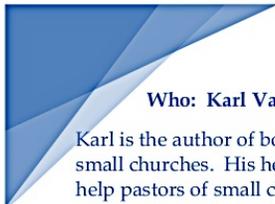




District Resource Academy
 Presents: **Big or Small - Redefining Ministry**
 A time apart with author Karl Vaters

Saturday September 29th 8:30am-2:00pm
First UMC - 21 Fern Dr. Torrington CT

Our District is creating a new opportunity for our clergy and church leadership to be resourced for effective ministry and engage in conversations/activities designed to help support our congregations in their effort to be effective disciple makers. These are called CT District Days. Please invite your church leaders and come for a time of activities and dialog around what it means to be a small church and how to leverage the uniqueness of your congregation to help it thrive no matter the size or context.



Who: Karl Vaters

Karl is the author of books about small churches. His heart is to help pastors of small churches find the resources and capitalize on their unique advantages. Karl has been in pastoral ministry for over 30 years and is the teaching pastor of Cornerstone Christian Fellowship, a healthy small church in Orange County CA.



Scheduled Agenda

8:30am	Continental Breakfast
8:50am	Welcome & Prayer
9:00am	Redefining Success in ministry (Plenary)
10:00am	Breakout Session #1
11:00am	Big or Small? What's The Difference (Plenary)
12:00pm	Lunch
12:40pm	Breakout Session #2
1:30pm	Question & Answer

Breakout Sessions:
Being a great small church
Infusing new life to existing small churches
Principles for being a great small church
Holy Habits
 (Sign-up on arrival - first come first serve)

CONNECTICUT DISTRICT
 NEW YORK CONFERENCE OF THE UMC
 20 Broadfield Road, Hamden C.T., 06517
 914-533-4377; ctdistrict@nyac.com
 Rev. Dr. Alpher Sylvester, District Superintendent



HELP WANTED

Ushers! We will train you. No pay, but the rewards are great. Some new teams and captains are needed as we begin the Fall season. Teams only serve every 10 weeks. Won't you commit to this important service? Call the Church office or our Usher Coordinator, Jim Spencer, 203-679-2377. Thank you.

JOIN THE CHOIR!

 We are going to kick off our year with a dinner on Thursday, September 6th, starting at 6:30 pm followed by a short rehearsal at 7:30. At our last rehearsal the choir decided to contribute towards a prepared meal rather than bring a pot luck. The cost will be \$5 per person. If you see Dorothy or Cindy over the next few weeks, you can pay us. If not, you can pay us on September 6th.

It is exciting to think of another year of wonderful music as we all commit ourselves to this ministry. The choir will be singing on Sunday September 2nd with a pick-up rehearsal on that Sunday at 9 am. Please be sure to be on time so that we can quickly run a simple anthem.

There will be special services and special music throughout the year. As always, rehearsals will be important!! There will be much new music to learn.

My thanks go out to everyone who helped out this summer by playing or singing, and sharing their musical talents for the glory of God. THANK YOU! See you all on September 2nd.

Prayer Chain continues active and strong, and would love to be praying for your needs and desires. If you have a special need for prayer, please let our prayer chain coordinator (Holly Wishart) know so she can share your burdens and needs with those who are on the chain. Please make certain you have permission from the person(s) you are praying for, and then call Holly, 203-907-5725, or the Church office, 235-9620. You can also e-mail the office, fumc@snet.net, if you prefer.

Briefs: You can access our **Church Calendar** on our website at <http://www.firstumcmeriden.com/events/> This calendar has the most current schedules...

Don't forget to 'like' our page on **Facebook** to stay up to date on everything that is happening.

Join us on the web! www.firstUMCmeriden.com Better still it is smart phone friendly. This is a wonderful new way for us to grow closer to Jesus and each other as a Church Family. Be sure to check it out!



All church Picnic

September 9th

12:00 am to 4:00 pm at Community Lake Park in Wallingford, following worship at 10:00.

Games, activities, music and special events for all ages will highlight the day.

Hamburgers, hotdogs, and beverages will be provided, along with all eating utensils.

You are to bring ball-playing equipment, lawn chairs, and a dish to share. Please indicate how many of your family will be attending and what you will be bringing on the sign-up sheet (a must!) in Rogers Memorial, or call the Church office to let us know. A free-will offering will be taken to help with costs.



Plan now to bring your family and friends and a non-perishable food item. All items will be given to the Meriden Soup Kitchen.

MISSIONS:

Emergency request for **Blood Donors!** The Red Cross has a significant blood shortage and is issuing a request for eligible blood and platelet donors. Every donation matters, as blood is being distributed to hospitals faster than donations are coming in. Donate here on September 20th, October 23rd, and December 18th, 1:00 - 6:00 pm in Rogers Memorial. Giving blood only takes about one hour and can save up to three lives. Call 1-800-GIVE LIFE or make an appointment on the Internet at <http://www.redcrossblood.org/> .



Connecticut Hospice Inc is recruiting transportation volunteers to drive homecare patients to and from doctor's appointments or to take families without cars to visit their loved ones at the inpatient hospice in Branford. Please call Volunteer Services at 203-315-7510 for more information

"Fostering Love" Children placed in Foster Care receive from 1st UMC Church a backpack with an outfit, a toy, and toiletries. We are in need of: We are in need of **pjs:** Boys 2,7,8,10,12,14 Girls 12 month and size 12
T shirts Boys 8,10,12 Girls 12 month
Shorts (plain) Boys 6,8,10,12 Girls 12 month, size 12,14,16 or x small ladies Items may be placed in the bin in the cloister. Thank you for your generous help!

FUMC Observes **"1st Sunday"** The Meriden Soup Kitchen cupboards are always in need of supplies, and we can help! As we celebrate Holy Communion on the 1st Sunday of every month we ask you to bring in non-perishable food items as an offering of thanks to God for His great love. A box is in the cloister for your monthly 'love gifts.' Can't come on a 1st Sunday? We'll receive them on 2nd, 3rd, or 4th Sunday too!

FELLOWSHIP HOUR

Sept 2 – Team 2: Stanley & Sharon Kapustinski, Brenda Daly, Nancy Tracy, Jan Richardson, Stacy Harris, Karen Harrison

Sept 9 – All Church Picnic - No Fellowship Hour

Sept 16 – Team 3: Debbie Molloy, Novelyn Cosmiano, Susan Farquharson, Jessica Nelson, Steve Rittenhouse, Jennifer Janus

Sept 23 – Team 4: Ray & Rosanne Knapp, Jim & Sue Kostuk, Debbie Lippold, Toni Merrill,

Sept 30 – Team 5: Nancy Coppola, Mary Alling, Kate Eglee, Bette Grasso, Mary Lavado, Tracy Wodatch

Oct 7 – Team 6: Deane Poirier, Alison Green, Maurice Poirier, MaryEllen Brechlin, Trudi Schott, Mark Fancher, Lauren Rhines, Ellen Fisk.

Oct 14 – Team 7: Myrna Spencer, Karen Caproizzo, Earl Yeomans, Linda Mizell, Jim Pearsall, Renee Pearsall, Betty Thomson, Mary Andersen

More Briefs: Administrative Board will meet Tuesday, September 4, 7:00 pm in Rogers Memorial... The **Nominating Committee** will meet Wednesday September 12 at 6:30 pm and September 26th at 6:30 pm... **Staff/ Pastor Parish Relations** will meet Tuesday, October 2, 6:30 pm.

The **Usher Schedule** is posted on the bulletin board in the Cloister.

The Deadline for the October Parish Herald is Friday, September 21. The Herald will be mailed Thursday, September 27, 9:00 am from the Church office.

Broad Shoulders – We need many volunteers for our ministry that provides meals for members of our Church family when there is a need, due possibly to illness or surgery. If you can help please contact Myrna Spencer (203-238-2704).

We have openings for **Altar Flowers** September 16 and all of October. If you wish to donate flowers in honor of or in memory of someone please sign up on the poster in the Cloister at least one week before or call the Church office, 203-235-9620.

A **Food Pantry** is available at New Opportunities, 74 Cambridge St, Meriden. Mon, Wed, Fri 9:00 am – 12:00 pm. Thurs, 4:00 pm – 6:30 pm.

Upper Room Devotional Books are available on the table by the kitchen in Rogers Memorial. A small donation in the offering plate will help cover the cost. Large print copies are also available.

WITHIN OUR FAMILY

Thank you everyone for your prayers, cards and best wishes when I had my Hearing Implant on 6/27/2018 and recuperation period. After the surgery. All of the above really helped and I just want to send you my blessings of Thanks to you for your support. Much appreciated, *Janice Gawlik*

Ralph Roy will turn 90 on September 30th. His daughter Joy is asking for people to send cards hoping that he can receive at least 90 of them Address: Ralph Roy, 697 South End Rd, Unit 37, Plantsville, CT 06497

Thank you to all who continue to pray for Kate. This November will be five years since her initial diagnosis. There have been very dark days when

holding on to hope would have been impossible without the knowledge that there is an army of people praying for Kate and the family. It is through your prayers and God’s providence that Katie is still with us. Last year we got the news that the Leukemia had entered the Cerebral/Spinal System. This is very difficult to treat and in May of this year the chemo nearly killed her. Again, it was God’s providence that delivered her through this latest round of treatments. Jesus told us that miracles happen not due to human power but to glorify the Father. Praise be to God and His Son that they hear our prayers. I see their glory at work every time I talk to Kate. **Kate’s last lab tests came back with no cancer in either the brain system or body.** She will be tested every few weeks and may yet need more chemo. Continue to pray for Kate. God bless our prayer warriors. Thank you. *Ray & Rosanne Knapp.*



September Birthdays:

Sara Mergel	1	Jessica Fancher	9	Jim Pearsall	21
Marc Spencer	2	Daniella Smith	11	Nicholas Koff	21
Roberta Dolan	2	Madison Gianotti	11	Leila Timm	22
Dean Smith-Morneau	2	Patti Barse	11	Amy Coppola	23
Kendra Henderson	3	Henriee Quaye	12	Gene McLean	24
Sheri Kroll	3	Sandra Gawlak	15	Carmen Garcia	24
Courtney Walton	3	Barry Spencer	17	Adrian McCarthy	26
Julia Kovach	3	Kate Eglee	17	Anthony DeRosa	26
Luke Henderson	4	Rachel Quaye	17	Debra Tomasino	28
Laura Canova	4	Ray Knapp	17	Madelyn Rhines	28
Natalie Timm	6	Everly Willhite	18	MaryEllen Brechlin	29
Madeline Therrien	6	Ashton Knapp	18	Ella Kostuk	29
Nancy Peterson	9	Jim Teagle	21		

Baptisms: 7/22 – *Adaline Jean Bernier*, born November 10, 2017, in Tennessee. She is the daughter of Julia Kristen Kovach and Benjamin Jon Bernier. Godparents: Megan Benoit Chamorro and John Paul Kovach. Grandparents: John & Debra Kovach, and Betty Bernier and Philip Vernier. Great Grandparents: Ruth Kovach, Audrey Kirkendall, and Bibiane Bernier

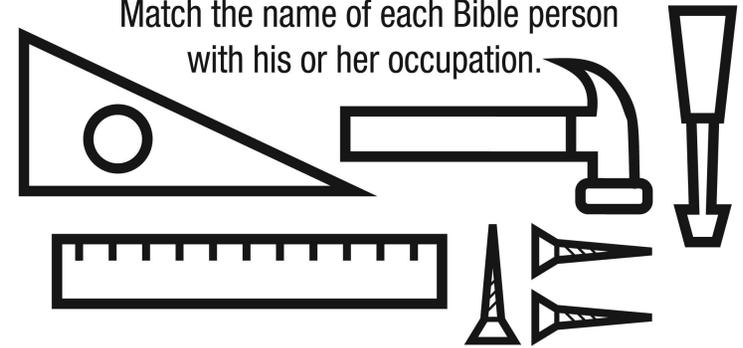
Hospitalized since the last Parish Herald: Clark Mills, Nancy Childers, Holly Wishart, Mindy Carter, Lillian Schultz, Nancy Peterson, Christie Sheilds.

Adult Bible Study, Seasonally. Pastoral & Lay Leadership
 Boy Scout Troop 52 Tuesday, 7:00 pm.
 Brothers in Christ 1st & 3rd Saturday, 8:00 am, Parish House
 Chancel Choir Rehearsal, Thursday, 7:30 pm, Sunday, 9:00 am
 Church School Children's Choir – 1st Sunday and Seasonal: 10:15 am
 Confirmation Class, alternate Sunday's after worship
 Handbell Choir Rehearsal, Sunday, 11:30 am.
 Youth Groups, Grades 6- 12 , Sunday, 11:00 am
 United Methodist Women , 2nd Monday of each month and Special Programs
 Worship Service & Church School at 10:00 am Sunday - Nursery provided.
 Web Site: www.FirstUMCMeriden.com



Puzzle!

Match the name of each Bible person with his or her occupation.



- | | |
|--------------|------------------|
| 1. Nehemiah | A. soldier |
| 2. Luke | B. carpenter |
| 3. Demetrius | C. cupbearer |
| 4. Matthew | D. clothseller |
| 5. Lydia | E. fisherman |
| 6. Joseph | F. shepherd |
| 7. Paul | G. tax collector |
| 8. Cornelius | H. tailor |
| 9. Tabitha | I. silversmith |
| 10. Amos | J. priest |
| 11. Eli | K. tentmaker |
| 12. Peter | L. physician |

Answers: 1. C, 2. I, 3. I, 4. G, 5. D, 6. B, 7. K, 8. A, 9. H, 10. F, 11. J, 12. E

September 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 8:00 AM Brothers In Christ
2 9:00 am Worship Youth Group	3  Labor Day	4 5:30 PM Education Commission 7:00 PM Administrative Board	5	6 Chancel Choir	7	8
9 10:00 am Worship All Church Picnic	10 Unit 4	11 Boy Scouts 10:00 AM Curts Home (Ric)	12 Nominating Committee 6:30 pm,	13 Chancel Choir	14	15 8:00 AM Brothers In Christ Mission Meal
16 10:00 am Worship Sunday School Starts Youth Group	17 5:00 PM City Mission	18 Boy Scouts	19 Director of Administration Vacation	20  Blood Drive Chancel Choir	21 Soup Kitchen Deadline for Parish Herald	22 5:00 PM Interfaith Progressive Dinner
23 10:00 am Worship Youth Group	24	25 Boy Scouts Membership Committee 6:30 pm	26 Nominating Committee 6:30 pm,	27 9:00 AM Parish Herald Mailed Chancel Choir	28	29
30 10:00 am Worship UMW Luncheon Youth Group Gideon's Sunday						

Kindly tear off and return to Church office. Thank you.

- () Please add/drop person below to mailing list
- () Would like offering envelopes
- () Would like to join Church
- () Changes in Address, phone, e-mail...
- () The person below is in the hospital
- () Please pray for:

NEWS FOR THE PARISH HERALD, COMMENTS, INFORMATION.

Signed.....

Mail should be sent to our 15 Pleasant St. Church office address. Please do not use the East Main Street address. Our E-Mail address is fumc@snet.net
Phone: 203-235-9620

First United Methodist Church
15 Pleasant Street
Meriden, CT 06450-5702

