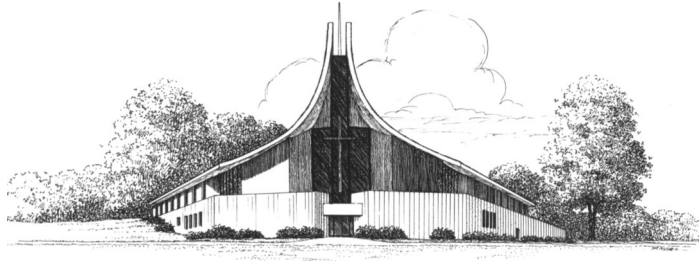




Volume 16, Issue 3
April, 2015

THE FLAME



The United Methodist Church of Danbury

At a Glance...

Lenten Bible Study
3/31 at 6:30 pm

**Maundy Thursday
Communion**
4/2 at 7 pm

**Good Friday Wor-
ship** 4/3 at 7:30 pm

Easter Services
April 5th

**Sunrise Ser-
vice** Memori-
al Garden 7am



Pancake Breakfast
8am

Easter Worship
10:30am

Easter Egg Hunt
Noon

Men's Dinner
4/6 at 7pm

Pumpkin Meeting
4/17 at 7pm

Tag Sale
4/18 10-2

Book Club
4/21 at 7:30

Car Washes
4/4, 4/11, 4/19, 4/25

Message from Pastor Kim

What If....The News is Good?

A good friend recently told me the story of a trip she took with her family when she was ten years old, a long awaited vacation to Niagara Falls. At that time, there was a cable car that took visitors out over the water so they could see the falls close up. Her parents and older sister were eager for a closer look at the falls, so they elected to take the cable car ride. My friend, though, stayed behind because she was too afraid. She was troubled by the "what-ifs": What if the ride made her so sick she couldn't even see the falls? What if the cable didn't hold? What if the cable car crashed and tumbled into the falls, leaving her all alone in the world with her two-year old brother, who was back home in Ohio with a relative? When the rest of the family returned, they talked about how beautiful and awesome the experience was...to see the dramatic falls close up and to even feel the spray of water on your face. Decades later, she still remembers the disappointing feeling of having missed the falls close-up because of her fear of the "what-ifs."

Her story resonates with me as I remember my own experiences of holding back because of "what-ifs." I suspect it will resonate with many of you as well. Although there may be some daredevils among us who plunge into things without stopping to contemplate fears and what-ifs, my experience is that many of us hold back out of some fear of the what-ifs:

What if I reach out to someone and get rejected?
What if my new project is a failure?
What if my medical test shows a serious illness?
What if the economy collapses?
What if people don't understand me?
What if my child can't find her way in life?

(Continued page 2)

Message from Pastor Kim (continued)

Of course any of these things might happen; we can't deny that some of them are a possibility. However, the what-ifs will rule the day if we let them. Perhaps there is a way to turn them around and let ourselves imagine possibilities rather than problems.

We are all familiar with the Biblical events that we recall during Holy Week and as a central part of our faith: the events in the life of Jesus that led to the trial, to the last supper, to the cross, to the empty tomb, and beyond. Imagine what it was like for that first band of disciples as they began to sense that the tide was turning against Jesus and them. What were their what-ifs? Perhaps they were wondering:

What if the crowds turn against Jesus?
 What if we are taken away because of our association with him?
 What if we trusted him too blindly?
 What if Jesus can't hold up under this kind of intense pressure?

In the disciples' limited wisdom and the context of their lives up to that point, they could not have even begun to imagine what actually came to pass: that Pilate, despite his own misgivings, would give in to the angry mob and order the death of Jesus on the cross. And so as the disciples confronted something far worse than even they had imagined, an amazing thing happened which turned their lives, our lives, and the direction of the world around: God rolled away the stone of their fearful what-ifs and offered a different kind of possibility.

What if...life conquers death?
 What if...Jesus is alive?
 What if...your sins are forgiven and you can begin again?
 What if...God's love is every bit as strong as God said it was going to be?
 What if...the news is good!!!

In this upcoming Easter season, this holy season of possibilities, we receive the awesome news that the stone of death has been rolled away. It is now up to us to roll away the stone of our fears and embrace the life-changing and transforming gift of God's love and forgiveness.

Pastor Kim

April Worship Schedule

| | | |
|----------|----------------------|---|
| April 5 | EASTER SUNDAY | Sermon: "Life Beyond the Grave" Holy Communion served to all. |
| April 12 | 2nd Sunday in Easter | Lay Speaker Minnie Rouse will lead worship and preach. |
| April 19 | 3rd Sunday in Easter | Pastor Kim preaching |
| April 26 | 4th Sunday in Easter | Worship, Pastor Kim preaching. (Following worship, there will be a meeting with Pastor Kim for persons interested in church membership.) |

Holy Week and Easter Schedule

| | |
|----------|--|
| March 29 | Palm/Passion Sunday |
| | 9:30 Sunday School for all ages |
| | 10:30 Worship, with reading of Passion Narrative Sermon: "When the Cross Lays Hold on You" |
| March 31 | 6:30 p.m. 24 Hours that Changed the World Lenten study, sessions 5 & 6 |
| April 2 | 7:00 p.m. Maundy Thursday Communion Service; Observing the Last Supper of Jesus with his disciples |
| April 3 | 7:30 p.m. Good Friday Stations of the Cross Service; Dramatic Readings and Music. |

EASTER SUNDAY: (APRIL 5)

| | |
|------------------------------|---|
| 7:00 a.m. | Outdoor Garden Service in church Memorial Garden; Informal Outdoor Communion Service celebrating the Resurrection of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Service will be in the sanctuary in case of rain. |
| Following outdoor service | Pancake Breakfast, in Fellowship Hall. |
| 10:30 a.m. | Worship Service celebrating the Resurrection of our Lord; Easter service will feature celebration Music; special Children's Message and Holy Communion for all. |
| Following Service | Easter Egg Hunt for kids 10 and under, Outside |

Child care is provided during 10:30 am service

Join us for coffee and fellowship immediately following 10:30 services



Trustees March Report

Attending:

Bev Anderson, Larry Bornemeier, Kim Bosley, Audrey Cain, Marylou Heyel, Will McWilliams, Kathy O'Shea, Kevin O'Shea, Chris Russock, Jim Teer

A plan was presented to replace our present office copier with one leased through Toshiba. The present machine is costing \$450 per month with 13 months left on the lease. Toshiba offered a deal that would absorb the cost to CT Business Services and it would be factored into the monthly cost of payment to them. The payments would be \$226.00 and remain at this rate for the life of the lease without any increase adjustments. This proposal will be proposed at the council meeting.

The notification letter to the congregation regarding the proposal on the new roof was discussed and agreed would be sent out the week of the 14th.

A new church sign was not discussed because of lack of illustrations.

Pastor Kim brought up the timeline of donations brought in for the May 9 clothing drive. No dates were confirmed.

Larry Bornemeier



Men's Club Dinner

April 6th 7pm

Windmill Diner

14 Mill Plain Rd, Danbury

Join us on the 1st Monday evening of the month for food and fellowship.

For more information talk to Zeke Zahara (203-746-2043)

ASP News

DOES YOUR CAR NEED A LITTLE LOVE??

ASP can help ...



April has four opportunities to get your car washed by the youth of ASP. Help them raise \$\$ for their trip AND make your car happy!

We have three **Saturday** car washes which are from 10 am – 2 pm

April 4th

April 11th

April 25th

We have one **Sunday** car wash this month from 12 – 4 pm on April 19th.



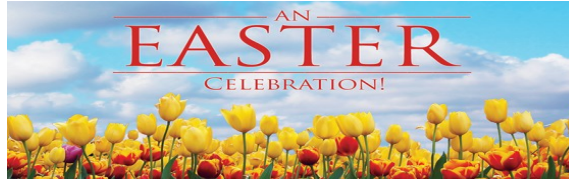
ASP BOTTLE AND CAN DRIVE

On Saturday, May 9th, ASP will be collecting bottles and cans during the Paper Shredding Event. So, please start saving your 5cent deposit cans and bottles and bring them on May 9th.



Sunday School News

Join the celebration and fun of Easter morning.



We have 2 Worship Services Easter morning.

We will have an early morning outdoor service at 7:00 am, in the garden, with a pancake breakfast to follow.

And a 10:30 am Easter Service with Holy Communion in the Sanctuary.

THEN....Join us for an Easter Egg Hunt following the 10:30 am service. It is for kids 10 years old and younger. Collection bags will be provided.

There will be no Sunday school on Easter, April 5th and April 12th.

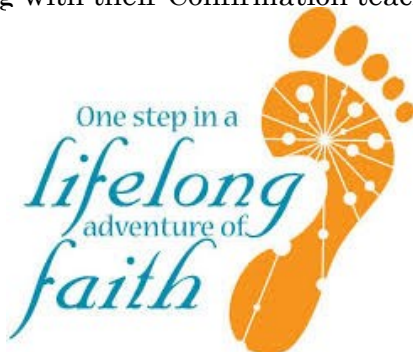


Confirmation Update

This year's Confirmation class has been meeting since October. The Confirmation process in the United Methodist Church gives young people the opportunity to affirm the faith into which they were baptized. Confirmation also strives to make our youth aware of how God has been and is active in their lives, and helps underscore the importance of a connection and place in the body of Christ, through the church.

Over the course of the year, confirmands study basic Christian concepts such as creation, sin and redemption. They consider what it means to be made new in Christ and empowered by the Holy Spirit. They learn about God's grace and salvation. They also study the place of the sacraments in the life of the church. In addition to all of that, they also receive teachings about the unique history and traditions of United Methodism.

This year's Confirmation class includes: Jade Cain, Justin Goodwin, Nathaniel and Peter Hornik, and Musa Masood. Confirmation Sunday is May 31st. On that Sunday, the Confirmation class will be leading the worship along with their Confirmation teacher, Pastor Kim.



We hope you will plan to be present on **May 31** as this year's class takes their place as members of the body of Christ at Danbury United Methodist Church.

Do you like to Sing????

DUMC has 2 ways to participate—
Chancel Choir and Impulse Choir.

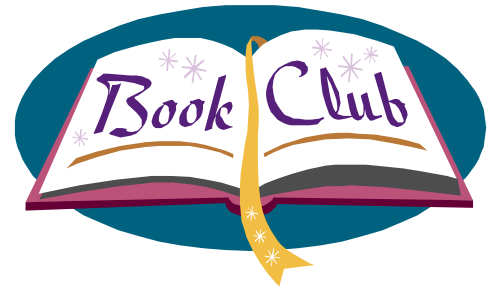
Choose EITHER or BOTH!

Chancel Choir meets on Thursday evenings and again on Sunday mornings at 9:30am. It is a wonderful way to share your talents, learn new music and have fun. All types of voices have a place in God's choir! No experience necessary.

Impulse Choir

If you are unable to make a long term commitment, this is for you... The Impulse choir practices at 9:30 before they sing at worship service, usually the 3rd Sunday of the month. Our next date is April 19th. The songs are quick to learn. Its exciting to praise the Lord with song. Come and give it a try any time!

For more information, speak to Carol Spaulding, or phone her at 203-778-4066.



The UMCD Book Club meets at 7:30 p.m. once a month. Please meet at the Church at 7:00 to carpool.

On Tuesday, April 21 we will be reviewing *The Storyteller*, by Jodi Picoult. Karlene Lombardo will be hosting this month at her home, 70 Old Ridgebury Rd, 203-743-1260

PUMPKIN FESTIVAL MEETING

Friday, April 17th at 7:00 pm

in Fellowship Hall.

Pizza will be served!

All are welcome!



It's Spring Time for Geraniums

*** Plants on sale April 19th to May 17th***

To celebrate our veterans on Memorial Day Sunday (May 24th)

Red only; \$5.00 each (4" size)

Sponsored by: The United Methodist Women of Danbury



The geraniums may be purchased to keep, or to be given to a veteran living at a local assisted living home. Each geranium may be given in honor of or in memory of a special veteran or a loved one. These geraniums will be placed around our church altar on the 24th of May. There will be a special red, white and blue bunting to add to this presentation for our veterans.

To place orders: Contact Karlene Lombardo personally, at 203-743-1260, or lombardodk@netzero.com. Checks should be made out to The United Methodist Women of Danbury (All proceeds go to mission giving.)

United Methodist Women

Calling All Ladies

Here are TWO great opportunities to participate in some spiritual renewal:

NY/CT UMW DISTRICT'S SPRING DAY APART

Saturday, April 18, 2015

Pawling United Methodist Church, 2 Dutcher Avenue, Pawling, NY

From 9:00 am to 2:00 pm

Light breakfast and tea luncheon served, donation is \$8.00

Topic: "Reading the Bible for Transformative Spiritually"

by Dr. Glory Dharmaraj



If you make the commitment and sign up by April 5th (Easter) our unit will pay the \$8.00 fee (includes light breakfast and tea luncheon). Contact Karlene Lombardo in person, 203-743-1260, or at Lombardodk@gmail.com. We will send in one registration for all, and carpool from the church.

Glory E. Dharmaraj, Ph.D. is former Director of Spiritual formation and Mission Theology for the United Methodist Women. Currently, she serves as a consultant for the United Methodist Women Bible Women program and Global Media Monitoring Project. She is also a faculty member of Desert University, at Scarritt Bennett Center, Nashville, TN teaching graduate level courses on "Reading Scripture for Transformation."

Glory is an author and co-author of several books. Her most recent book she co-authored with Jacob Dharmaraj, *A Theology of Mutuality: A Paradigm for 21st Century* (2014), was published by the United Methodist Women. She has led workshops, mission studies, and retreats at various levels for the United Methodist Women. She has addressed several national and international level conferences on the theme of Christian mission.

She is married to a United Methodist clergy person, and has served with him at churches in Bombay, Illinois Great Rivers, and New York Annual Conferences including Pawling, Poughquag, and Shrub Oak United Methodist churches in New York Connecticut district.

United Methodist Women of Danbury for Mission U.

There are two \$150.00 scholarships available from the **United Methodist Women of Danbury for Mission U.** It will be held at WCSU (midtown campus) from July 23rd to July 25th 2015.

You may get information and registration forms at <http://nyac.com/missionu> . The theme is: Journeying to Wholeness, Holiness, Happiness. There are three studies to choose from and meals are provided. The cost for a commuter student is \$235.00. Contact Karlene Lombardo at lombardodk@gmail.com

Special UMC Mission



Did you know that since 2000 the rate of malaria deaths in Africa has been cut from one million a year to 500,000? This has been accomplished through a worldwide campaign to eradicate this disease. Several organizations have banded together with the goal of reducing malaria deaths to zero. These organizations include, among others, The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation and the United Methodist Church.

The UMC calls its campaign “Imagine No Malaria” and has a goal of raising \$75 million by the end of 2016. The New York Annual Conference share of this goal is \$1.2 million and we have already raised nearly half.

Bishop Jane Middleton is asking each congregation to do its part to help realize our goal of eradicating malaria. She is asking each congregation to contribute \$10 per person by April 25, which is World Malaria Day.

On **Sunday, April 19**, we will receive a collection for this purpose. Please come prepared to make your donation. Our Confirmation Class will make a brief presentation on the importance of this campaign, after which the class will take up an offering. Our offering will then be presented to the Annual Conference with a celebration at the Conference session in June.

This is a time to give generously. The lives of precious women, men, and children depend on it. Please plan to be a part of this incredible opportunity to help defeat this deadly disease.



FUN-draisers

Spring Tag Sale
Saturday April 18th
10am to 2pm.



Donations can be dropped off in Fellowship Hall April 6 to April 13th. We will be setting up the tag sale in the "green" room beginning April 13th. If you are available during that week to help set up there will be a sign up sheet in the Narthex the last week of March.

Please don't drop things off earlier than April 6th!!! We would like Fellowship Hall to look nice for Easter and possibly have a dinner on April 10th. If you have any questions please talk to Deb Davis (203-733-0733) or Bev Anderson.(203-746-4800)

CHECK OUT OUR "GREEN" FUNDRAISER MEGA-EVENT

Saturday, MAY 9th 10am-3pm

SECURE DOCUMENT SHREDDING—purge your files, closets and basements of unwanted documents. Bring them to the church parking lot to be shredded securely.

Help the church raise money, too!

For more info, contact Chris Russock (860-799-7878)



BOTTLES AND CANS FOR DEPOSIT—Bring your bottles and cans to help raise money to send our kids on ASP



Cans & Bottles

CLOTHING AND HOUSEHOLD GOODS BY THE POUND

We are working with clothingdrivefundraiser.com and we'll receive a monetary donation based on the total weight of the items we collect. Please bring all types of used wearable clothing. All sneakers and shoes. Blankets, sheets, bedspreads, pillows, drapery, curtains, tablecloths, bath rugs, towels, comforters, accessories made of fabric. PLEASE PUT ALL ITEMS IN WELL TIED TRASH BAGS but DO NOT DROP OFF UNTIL May 9th

For more info, call Minnie Rouse (203-312-3740)



Please do not drop things off before events!!!



APPALACHIA SERVICE PROJECT

For the Danbury United Methodist Church, Appalachia Service Project is a ministry that provides the high school aged youth from the Danbury area an opportunity to volunteer a week of their summer, repairing the homes of low-income families in Central Appalachia. We've done work such as; repairing rotted trailer floors, replacing roofs, adding rooms so that children are allowed to stay with their family by the authorities, added safe entrance and egress, installed insulation, etc. We like to say that the goal of ASP is to make homes "warmer, safer and drier" for needy families.

While that is true, for the adults involved in ASP, in addition to helping those families it has also been a chance to spend time working together, getting to know each other a little better and getting to know the kids from our church as well as many other kids. For the youth, it is a chance to help others, to become confident with new skills (not all of which are related to home repair), to see a very different life style, and to get to know kids they would likely never have gotten to know.

It has been my hope that by giving the youth involved in ASP a chance to serve others, and by setting an example for them, we might create in them a lifetime desire to help others.

If you are interested in taking part there are a couple ways to do so. First, you are welcome to join us on the trip, we typically travel to Appalachia in late June or early July, this year our trip will be from Saturday, June 27th through Sunday, July 5th. There is a list of various dates for training, orientations, etc. on our church website under Appalachia Service Project (danburymethodist/asp). No building or repair experience is necessary. Adult volunteers are still very much needed. However, if you aren't willing to sleep on an air mattress for a week or physical work is not in the cards there are other ways to help. Coordinating or helping to organize activities, help with fund raising, and various administrative activities all need to be done. If this is something you might be interested in lending a hand with, there is work to be done. Our planning committee (usually) meets the third Wednesday of each month at 7 PM in room 3 of the Danbury UMC. There are several folks from our church that help with the year round planning as well as people from St. James Episcopal church and the King Street Congregational church.

The person to contact if you are interested or just curious is Don DeMouth (730-8103).

Outreach

Bike and Build

The cyclists are scheduled to arrive on **Sunday June 14th** between 3 and 4 pm. There are 34 young adults that will be arriving and staying the night with us. There has been a change to their travel plans across country and they will only be staying the one night. Donations of cereal, fruit, yogurt, milk, juice, hot dogs, burgers, vegetarian burgers, salads, chips, etc. would be greatly appreciated. If you have any questions about this event you can talk to Mark Pierce (203-744-2860) or Bev Anderson (203-746-4800)

The United Methodist Church of Danbury

5 Clapboard Ridge Road • Danbury, CT 06811

Phone: 203-743-1503 • Fax: 203-743-1533
danburyumc@sbcglobal.net



A Safe Sanctuary for Children

Ministers: The Congregation

Pastor: Kimberly A. Bosley

Associate Music Director: Carol Spaulding

Church Administrator: Patti Cohen-Hecht

Lay Leaders: Minnie Rouse and David Zeigler



Thank you to my Church Family. I want all my friends to know how thankful I was for all the calls, the beautiful cards, the loving messages and all the help during a rather long recovery. With Spring around the corner(?), things are getting much better.

I really appreciate all the help and love from all. I thank you again,

Love, Dot Gadoci



NEEDED:

Chairman for the Pumpkin Festival.

We have most of the Activity heads identified, but still need someone(s) to be our chairman.

If you have any interest, Kathy O'Shea would love to talk to you about the job. (203-241-1510)

THE FLAME

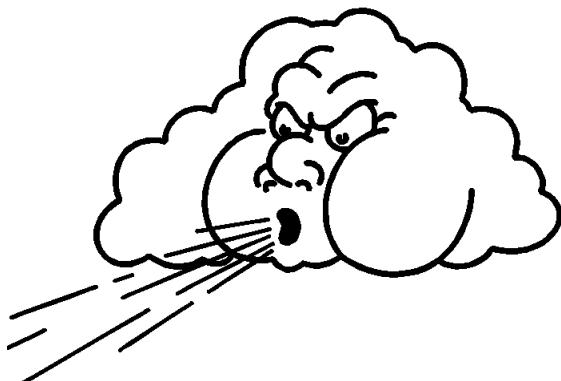
This April Flame was made possible by:

Editor..... Kathy O'Shea

Contributors Pastor Kim, Larry Bornemeier, Bev Anderson, Don Demouth, Coralee Demouth, Minnie Rouse, Carol Spaulding and Karlene Lombardo

Deadline for the May 2015 Flame is April 22
Please, add your contact information to your articles

Email: danburyumcflame@sbcglobal.net



Any cancellations of our Sunday activities due to weather related conditions will be sent to everyone on our church e-contact list. The information will also be on the church's answering machine by 8:45AM.

If you would like to be added to our church e-contact list, please email the church office at danburyumc@sbcglobal.net