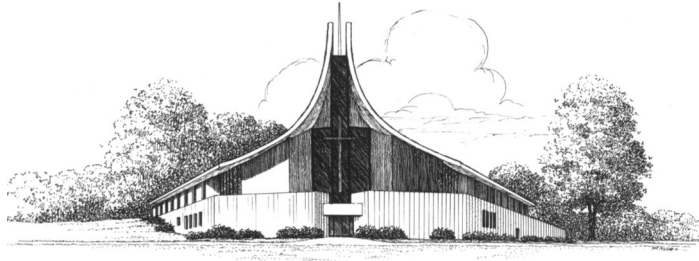




Volume 16, Issue 2
February-March,
2015

THE FLAME



The United Methodist Church of Danbury

At a Glance...

Corned Beef Dinner
3/13 5-7pm

**Shrove Tuesday
Pancake Dinner**
2/17 5-7pm

Book Club
2/17

Ash Wed. Service
2/18 7pm

**ASP
Information session**
2/25 7pm

Men's Club Dinner
3/2 7pm

**Pumpkin Festival
Organizational Mtg**
3/3 7pm

**Fundraiser Brain-
storm Meeting**
3/8 after church

Safe Sanctuary
3/8 after church

Visitation Committee
3/22 after church

UMW
3/24 7pm

Message from Pastor Kim

“When the woes of life o’er take me,
hopes deceive and fears annoy,
never shall the cross forsake me;
Lo! It glows with peace and joy.”

This is a verse from one of the most well known Christian hymns, “In the Cross of Christ I Glory.” I was reminded of this hymn as I was thinking about the fact that we are only days away from the beginning of the season of Lent. Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, which is Feb. 18.

Lent is a season filled with images at once compelling and dark. For me, the images that come to mind include ones of temptation; betrayal and profound loss; a trial; an angry mob; a last meal with friends; and the suffering form of our Lord Jesus on the cross. The image of Jesus on the cross is one that we’d prefer not to look at it and yet it is at the center of our faith. For us as Christians, the bottom line has always been the resurrection. We affirm that we celebrate a risen Christ, but we also know that we have to go through the crucifixion to get there.

Lent forces us, if we let it, to look at the wreckage of the cross. I personally think this is spiritually compelling process. You see, the wreckage of the cross is really about us, and Lent invites us to let that reality sink in. You see, there is this “sin thing” that keeps getting in our way--this “fear thing,” this “greed thing,” this broken “it’s all about me thing.” It is not all there is to us, but it is strong stuff, and yet according to the cross IT IS FINISHED. It has no more dominion over us, because Jesus’ death killed it once and for all. We have been set free. His death and resurrection saved us, and while no one can explain that any better than anyone can explain how he was all human and all God, that is indeed what we affirm as people of faith, as people of Christ.

This upcoming Lenten season, spend some time looking at and reflecting on the cross, and its meaning for our lives. On the cross, you will see God. You will see God’s absolute self-giving love. No exaggeration, the Lord of the universe would die for you. Did die for you. When you look at the cross, you discover, beyond your wildest imaginings, you are loved. You are accepted and forgiven. Don’t turn away from this gift. It is the very picture of God’s love--vulnerably and freely given. Just for you. Just for me. Just say yes.

Pastor Kim

Worship Schedule for Mid-February through March

Feb. 18	7 p.m.	Ash Wednesday Service; Imposition of Ashes
Feb. 22	9:30 10:30	Sunday School/all ages Worship; 1st Sunday in Lent <i>Worship in Fellowship Hall</i> Pastor Kim preaching
March 1	9:30 10:30	Sunday School/all ages Worship; 2nd Sunday in Lent Holy Communion Served Pastor Kim preaching
March 8	9:30 10:30	Sunday School/all ages Worship; 3rd Sunday in Lent Pastor Kim preaching
March 15	9:30 10:30	Sunday School/all ages Worship; 4th Sunday in Lent Pastor Kim preaching
March 22	9:30 10:30	Sunday School/all ages Worship; 5th Sunday In Lent Pastor Kim preaching
March 29	9:30 10:30	Sunday School/all ages Palm/Passion Sunday Pastor Kim preaching

Child care is provided during 10:30 am service

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

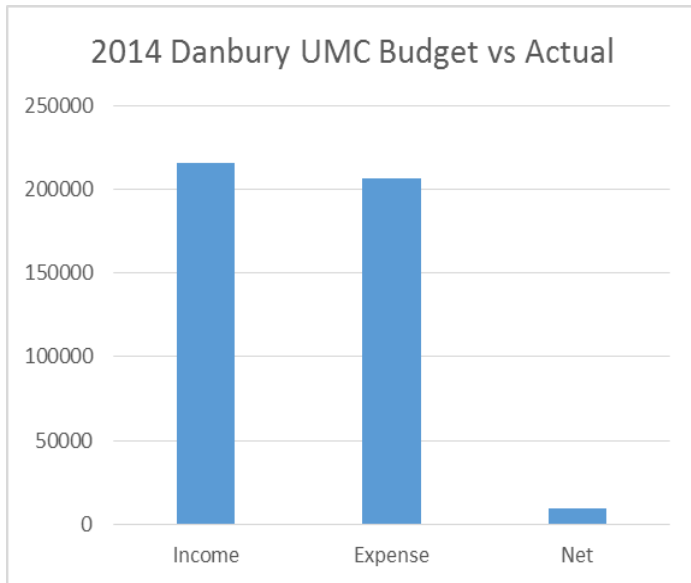


Financial Report

Danbury UMC closed out 2014 with a net operating balance of \$9,279 for the year. This was a great accomplishment given the 2014 outlook had been for a significant deficit.

Thanks go to all the committees and the entire congregation for achieving this result.

The chart below shows the income, expenses and net for 2014:



The 2014 proceeds have been rolled into 2015 to help with 2015 expenses. The 2015 budget once again projects a deficit so continued focus on reducing expenses and growing income will remain but as 2014 demonstrates we are well positioned to achieve this.

Detailed reports showing income and expense sources for 2014, as well as the 2015 budget, have been posted on the bulletin board next to the office or can be obtained by contacting Keith Goodwin. We will update our financial status monthly to the council, committee heads and quarterly to the entire congregation.

Any questions or suggestions please contact Keith Goodwin.

Trustees January Report

Attending: Larry Bornemeier, Jim Teer, Kevin O'Shea, Don Lombardo, Audrey Cain, Will McWilliams.

Agenda:

Elections

- | | |
|------------------|---------------------|
| Larry Bornemeier | Committee Chairman |
| Jim Teer | Recording Secretary |
| Kevin O'Shea | Trustees Treasurer. |

New Members Don Lombardo, and Audrey Cain

Church Roof

Three estimates for repairs on the roof were discussed. The Trustees voted to approve the quote of \$56,000 from Barrett Roofing for this work. This would require a down payment of \$32,000. It was also recommended that we have a Capitol Fund drive before the work begins to reduce the amount borrowed. Financing has been arranged with Union Bank of Danbury for the remaining cost after the Capitol Fund Drive.

Larry reminded the Trustees that this estimate does not include the cost of carpentry and materials to the structural repairs of the vertical roof beams in the narthex. The repair to these beams will have to be addressed as soon as the roof is opened. Kevin O'Shea offered some of his own personnel to help with the beam rehabilitation. Kevin also mentioned that a structural engineer that he knows at Jesse Lee has offered to provide drawings for the beam rehabilitation.

Tentatively, work will begin in early April.

Furnace

Our furnace was inspected by Frank Jasensky, who reported that it is in good shape.

Doors

The new wing doors will be painted in the spring.

Lawn Sign

Kim Goodwin, spoke to the Trustees about the installation of a new sign on the lawn. Trustees asked that at least 3 estimates be obtained before a decision could be made. It was suggested that the sign could possibly be funded through the Memorial Fund. This will be discussed further at the next meeting.

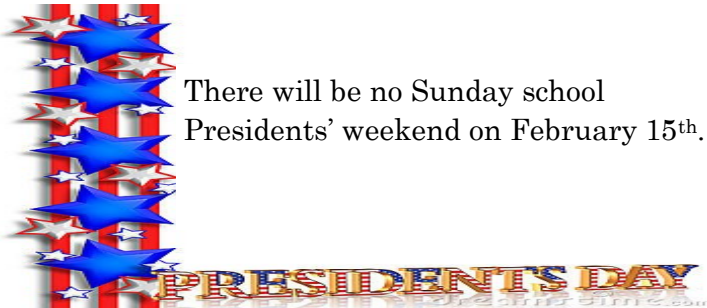
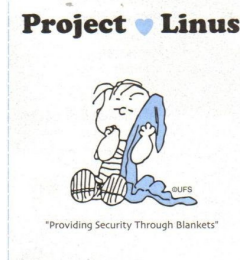
- Larry Bornemeier

Sunday School News

We had a wonderful Valentine Party last Sunday. We made a blanket for Project Linus, which is an organization that gives blankets to children who are in need of comfort.



We also made Valentines and played some games



There will be no Sunday school Presidents' weekend on February 15th.

See you Sunday, February 22nd!



Sunday, March 8th 12-1:30PM in the Fellowship Hall. Lunch will be provided. Please contact Minnie Rouse, if you are interested in attending

"Safe Sanctuaries is an overt expression in making congregations safe places where children, youth and elders may experience the abiding love of God and fellowship within the community of faith." from Discipleship Ministries, United Methodist Church
Periodically, we offer training in our church's Safe Sanctuary policies. All who work with our children & youth are required to be trained, but anyone is welcome to participate and learn about our local policies.

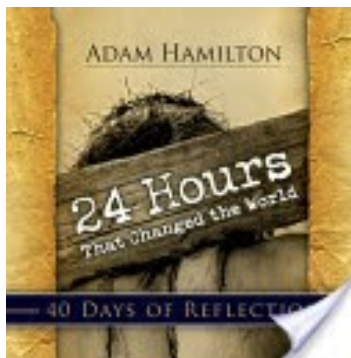


The next meeting of the UMCD Book Club will be February 17th, at the church following the Pancake Supper. The selection is Whiter Than Snow, by Sandra Dallas.

All are welcome (rumor has it that having read the book is not required!)

24 Hours That Changed the World A Lenten Study

No single event in human history has received more attention than the suffering and crucifixion of Jesus Christ. This year's Lenten study opportunity, "24 Hours That Changed the World", will help you better understand the events that occurred during the last 24 hours of Jesus' life. Together, we will see more clearly the theological significance of Christ's suffering and death, and reflect on the meaning of these events for our lives.



Our study will begin on Thursday, Feb. 19, at 6:30. Each participant will read a chapter of Adam Hamilton's book "24 Hours that Changed the World" before each group session. Each session will feature a DVD

segment filmed in the Holy Land, group Bible study, and discussion Of the themes of that chapter. The study will continue through each Thursday in Lent. You may come at 6 for dinner in Fellowship Hall if you wish.

Please sign up ahead of time if you want to be assured of getting a book. No prior knowledge is assumed. Anyone is welcome to join.....Kim

United Methodist Women

On Tuesday, March 24th, there will be a United Methodist Women's meeting. The place for this meeting has not been determined. You will see posts for it in the bulletin. This meeting will start at 7pm. The program "Lent: Seeing the Power of Sisterhood" will focus on the ways that women can help each other. March is Women's History Month. A dessert social will follow the meeting. A collection of non-perishable food items will be received for the Women's Center of Greater Danbury: tuna fish, soups and stews, pudding snack cups, coffee, peanut butter/jelly, juice boxes, individual snack packs and macaroni & cheese.

Please make every effort to attend. If you have any questions, or need a ride, contact Karlene Lombardo at 203-743-1260.

THANK YOU

The United Methodist Women has received many thank you notes and letters from various groups. We have completed our donations for this past year. Some recurring themes in these thank you letters are: "You are faithful supporters of mission. From 2000 to 2014.....Wow." "Truthfully we could not accomplish this without your support." "You made a difference." Our final tally of hats and gloves for the Interfaith Early Learning Center was twenty-four hats and fifteen pairs of gloves. Many young children are warmer this cold winter because of you!

- Karlene Lombardo

Visitation Committee

The committee will meet March 22nd right after church in Room 3. It seems we just signed Christmas cards and now it is time for Easter ones. It is so nice to get a card in the mail, and this helps to brighten the day for our shut ins, and to let them know we are thinking about them. We can catch up on how they are coming along, so get your pens ready for those cards.

...Valerie Stagen

ASP Information Sessions



We will be travelling to Appalachia again this summer to make homes warmer, safer and drier. If you would like to learn about Appalachia Service Project (ASP) please attend one of our information sessions on Wednesday, February 25th at 7:00 PM at the Danbury United Methodist Church. These sessions are for youth or adults that may want to go on the trip (**June 28th – July 6th**) and for parents who would like to learn more about ASP.

For more information call Don Demouth at 203-730-8103 or visit our website at danburymethodist.org/asp.



THANK YOU to everyone who supported our 2nd annual Pasta Dinner, February 7th, at the St. James' Episcopal Church. This is one way we raise funds for the 2015 ASP trip.



Men's Club Dinner

March 2nd at 7PM

Applebees, 57 Federal Road

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

For more information talk to Zeke Zahara



FUNDRAISER BRAINSTORMING

We have a newly formed group exploring various Fundraising Ideas. The 2nd meeting will be Sunday, March 8th, after 10:30 service, Room 3. Come help us prioritize the ideas that we have and come up with other ideas. Out of the box thinkers—this is for you.



ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING FOR FESTIVAL Tuesday, March 3rd at 7:00PM in Room 3

It's time to get started with our plans for this year's Pumpkin Festival.

The date is set—October 3rd.

Top on the agenda for this first meeting is finding a head our festival this year.

We have great activity heads and lots of enthusiastic hands.

Please join us as we get started on our largest fund raiser of the year



CHECK OUT OUR "GREEN" FUNDRAISERS

Saturday, May 9th we will be having the Secure Document Shredding Truck in our parking lot. Last year this was a successful fund raiser as well as a great community event. This year we are stepping it up by adding other "environmentally conscious" activities, all happening on the same day!

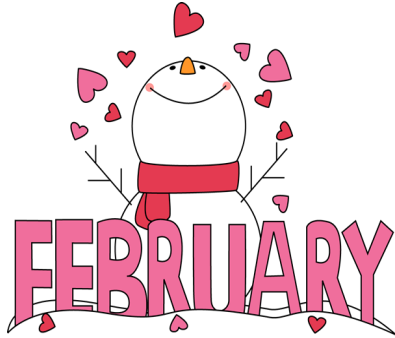
SECURE DOCUMENT SHREDDING

CLOTHING, SHOES, LINENS, STUFFED ANIMALS, etc COLLECTION

BOTTLES AND CANS FOR DEPOSIT (ASP fundraiser)

Please keep these events in mind as you clean your closets, garages and basements. More information will follow.

*Best wishes and God's blessings
To those celebrating birthdays in*



<i>Thomas DeMouth</i>	<i>2/2</i>	<i>Kathy O'Shea</i>	<i>2/19</i>
<i>Barbara Fulton</i>	<i>2/6</i>	<i>George Irving</i>	<i>2/20</i>
<i>Myra Tesbir</i>	<i>2/6</i>	<i>Patrick Roig</i>	<i>2/21</i>
<i>Robert Bucko</i>	<i>2/13</i>	<i>Brittany Cormier</i>	<i>2/22</i>
<i>Adam Jasensky</i>	<i>2/14</i>	<i>Maryann Slater</i>	<i>2/22</i>
<i>Clinton McLeod</i>	<i>2/14</i>	<i>Ginger Lourenco</i>	<i>2/25</i>
<i>Jamie Grandison</i>	<i>2/15</i>	<i>Elizabeth Miller</i>	<i>2/25</i>
<i>Sue Teer</i>	<i>2/15</i>	<i>Joan Ziegler</i>	<i>2/25</i>
<i>Jonathan Basso</i>	<i>2/16</i>	<i>Kim Skidmore</i>	<i>2/27</i>
<i>Bishop Rouse III</i>	<i>2/16</i>	<i>Lucinda Johnson</i>	<i>2/28</i>
<i>Stephanie Pontello</i>	<i>2/16</i>	<i>Jason Furgala</i>	<i>2/29</i>

If we don't have your birthdate,
please call the church office (203-743-1503). Thanks



SHROVE TUESDAY

Shrove Tuesday is the last day before Lent.

Come enjoy a delicious "non-fasting" dinner of pancakes, sausage, applesauce, fruit, coffee, tea and juice.

Pancake Dinner
Tuesday, February 17th
5-7 PM
Fellowship Hall

Adults \$8
Seniors (65+) \$6
Kids (under 12) \$4

For more information,
contact Myra Tesbir
or Bev Anderson

Thursday Night Dinners February/March Menu

Feb 12	Ham
Feb 19	Meat Loaf
Feb 26	Chicken
March 12	Pasta
March 19	Tacos
March 26	Soup & Sandwich

Dinners are from 6:00-6:30 PM
in the Fellowship Hall

LIFE IS
BETTER
WHEN
YOU'RE
LAUGHING.

Bulletin Bloopers of the month:

"Don't let worry kill you off
— let the church help"—
from Pastors.com

CORNED BEEF

DINNER Friday, March 13

5-7 pm.

Fellowship Hall

Adults \$12
Seniors (65+) \$10
Kids (under 12) \$6



The United Methodist Church of Danbury

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danburyumc@sbcglobal.net

A Safe Sanctuary for Children

Ministers: The Congregation

Pastor: Kimberly A. Bosley

Associate Music Director: Carol Spaulding

Church Administrator: Wonderful Volunteers

Lay Leaders: Minnie Rouse and David Zeigler



Thank You!

Many thanks to Sue Teer, Joyce Morrison and Kathy Roig, who have been volunteering in the church office while we go through the process of hiring a new administrative assistant.

They have been getting out our bulletins, announcements, answering the phone, checking e-mails and handling any other matters than come up in the office.

Please thank them personally, when you see them.



I want to thank everyone for thinking of me with the cards, visits and prayers. The Christmas carolers at my door were especially wonderful.

Thank you all,

Dot Treadwell

Anonymous quote of the month:
"Whoever is praying for snow,
PLEASE STOP"



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

THE FLAME

This Feb.. Flame was made possible by:

Editors..... Kathy O'Shea

ContributorsPastor Kim, Keith Goodwin, Larry Bornemeier, Jim Davis, Bev Anderson, Don Demouth, Coralee Demouth, Minnie Rouse, Val Stagen and Karlene Lombardo , Kathy Roig

Deadline for the April 2015 Flame is March 22

Email: danburyumcflame@sbcglobal.net