

FEBRUARY 2019 OUTLOOK

Unity Hill United Church of Christ

364 White Plains Road, Trumbull, CT 06611

Web site: www.unityhillucc.org

E-mail: unityhillucc@snet.net

Phone: 203-374-8822 Fax: 203-374-1120



The Reverend M. Todd Shipley, Pastor

Diane Henderson, Moderator
Dawn Brezina, Church Clerk
Dorothy W. Pickens, Soloist
Jeffrey Stokely, Music Coordinator
Joanne Wickson, Office Administrator
Kathleen Miranti, Bookkeeper
Calap Brown, Sexton
Louise Evans, R.N., Parish Nurse

~~~~~  
Office Hours: Monday – Friday 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.  
~~~~~

OUTLOOK DEADLINE ~ We welcome contributions to our monthly newsletter and invite you to share information, or even something more creative!

The **MARCH 2019 Outlook** will be published at the end of **FEBRUARY**.

All submissions, special announcements, articles or events **provided on, or before, the DEADLINE of Thursday, FEBRUARY 14** will be included.



Please remember our homebound in your prayers or with a note:

Dorothy Barwick, Hazel Berger, Dolores Colaiacomo, Gail Gorlo,
Katie Schneider and Mitch Wein.

PASTORAL CARE ~ If you, or someone you know, is hospitalized, please call the church office to let us know (203-374-8822). Hospitals do not notify us when a parishioner is hospitalized.



*“No matter who you are or where you are on life’s journey,
you are welcome here!”*

THAW YOUR HEART



But when they saw him walking on the sea, they thought it was a ghost and cried out; for they all saw him and were terrified. But immediately he spoke to them and said,

“Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid.” Then he got into the boat with them and the wind ceased. And they were utterly astounded because they did not understand about the loaves, for their hearts were hardened.

“How many times do I have to ask you to brush your teeth before you actually do it?”

Ah the call of the North American parent. Getting kids to pay attention to the ‘task at hand’ is tough, and I always get the sense of a frustrated but loving parent in Jesus when he interacts with his disciples.

In the Biblical scene illustrated above though, I think Jesus is asking us to do something quite different than paying attention to the mundane chores of everyday life.

Jesus wants his disciples to be open to the extraordinary possibilities God presents to them. Because what was happening before them did not fit into a predictable and established paradigm, they were dazed and confused. The disciples didn’t believe that this radically different thing could be happening. Their hearts were too hard to accept the proposition that all things are possible with God: even, and especially, the ones you never imagined or predicted.

If you think you have it all figured out, or you are waiting for the world to conform to your expectations, maybe it is time you found a way to soften your heart so that amazing possibilities of a relationship with God can enter...

Yours,

Pastor Todd

LOVE
WILL THAW a
FROZEN
HEART



CHURCH UPDATES

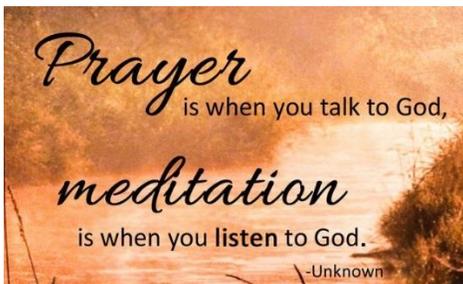
PRESIDENTS' DAY ~ Monday, February 18 – Office is closed for holiday.



ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE ~ March 6 at 7:00 pm at Trumbull Congregational Church, 3115 Reservoir Avenue
Joint Service with members of Trumbull Congregational.
They will join us for Maundy Thursday here at Unity Hill

ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING on Sunday, March 24 at 11:30 am.
All members please plan on attending. Officers, Committees and Delegates Annual Reports are due in office on or before Sunday, February 24.

Annual
Congregational
Meeting



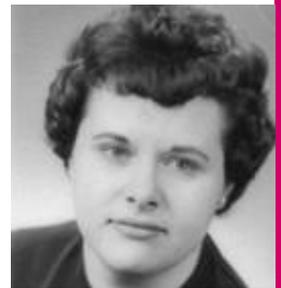
MEDITATION WORKSHOP
Wednesdays – 9:30-10:30 am in the sanctuary

CHURCH CHRISTMAS CARD – Bob and Barbara Schneider's names were left off the card by mistake. We apologize.

2019 ALTAR FLOWER SIGN UP ~ Please contact the office if you would like to register for the 2019 Flower calendar list to have flowers placed on the altar in memory or celebration of your loved ones - \$30.00 for 1 and \$50.00 for 2 arrangements. It will be up to you to remit payment directly to Langanke's. Any questions, call Joanne in the office at 203-374-8822. Thank you so much.



It is with sadness that we announce the death of NELLIE PAULINE WIRTH, 79, who died on Monday, December 31, 2018. A memorial service was held on Friday, January 4, 2019 at 2:00 p.m., at her church, Unity Hill UCC. (Nellie was confirmed in 1952. *) Our prayers are with her brother and sister-in-law, William and Diane Wirth and her family, including her cousin, Courty Vars. (* Other members of her Confirmation class were Betty Heffelfinger and Carole Fanslow.)



SNOW CANCELLATIONS ~ Listen on the Radio to WICC (600 AM) or WEBE-108 (107.9 FM) or watch WTNH-TV Ch. 8 for church cancellation notices or go to www.ctweather.com to sign up for instant notification of cancellations or delays.
Any questions, call our office - 203-374-8822.

If Trumbull schools are closed, delayed or dismissed early, our office will be closed.



The Incarnation Celebration



Come Celebrate God's Favorite Creation: YOU!
at a Fairfield County-Wide Worship Event
Sunday, February 10 at 10:30 a.m.
here at Unity Hill United Church of Christ

GEORGE'S HILL

George's Hill Support Group ~ Thursday, February 14 ~ 11:30 am – 1:00 pm, including lunch. To register, please call the church office at 203-374-8822 or sign up on our web site. We meet on the second Thursday of every month.

Our motto is: **YOU ARE NOT ALONE!**



CHURCH COUNCIL ~ By: Moderator, Diane Henderson

Next Council Meeting is Monday, February 11 at 7:00 pm.

Committee reports to Council are due in office by Monday, February 4.

MISSIONS COMMITTEE ~ By: Brenda Finizio, Chair

2018 was a great year for Missions. Please see Unity Hill's 2018 Annual Report for details of all we supported and accomplished during 2018.

Priorities for 2019:

Connect with Community – Golden Hill Suppers, Food Drives, Connection with Council of Churches of Greater Bridgeport, Needy Supply Drives.

Continue to support GB Council of Churches, Our Churches Wider Mission, Church World Service, disaster relief, Haitian Helping Hands, Educational initiatives.

We are planning a mission trip in the US. More information to follow.

We are also sponsoring a teenager to attend the Mission services session this summer at Silver Lake. For all those interested, contact Brenda.

If anyone is interested in helping the Mission Committee, please let us know.

Thank you for all your generous support.

Missions Committee: Brenda Finizio, Chair, Marsha Piper, Carole Fanslow

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION ~ By: Sharon Brezina, Chair

Well, the New Year has started in the Unity Hill Christian Ed world. We are so excited for new beginnings.

January started off with the children listing the one thing that is stopping them from getting closer to God. We had everything from not being charitable enough to being too selfish.

So, we all sat down and wrote out a 2019 commitment to ourselves ... and to God. The children are praying to spend more time volunteering at the animal shelters, watching what they eat so food doesn't consume their time and energy, donating items they no longer want or need to kids who could use them. We have posted them on the wall and check up on each other every Sunday. So please say a prayer for all of us in CE that we may succeed at our goal and become more aware of the God around us.

Our current program is titled "This Year I Will." We began by discussing New Year resolutions and the promises and challenges they bring. We are going to focus on four areas of our lives that will make a big difference in our resolutions: Friends, Family, Faith and Future. We will take the time to look at these areas and see that God is already up to some pretty awesome things in our lives and the lives of those around us. This is a four week series that I hope the children enjoy as much as I do.

Stay warm, Sharon



FELLOWSHIP GROUPS

FELLOWSHIP OF UNITY HILL ~ By: Dot Pickens, President

- ~ Our next turn at **Golden Hill Community Suppers** will be on Wednesday, February 28. Anyone that would like to help either by cooking at 2pm or serving at 5pm at Golden Hill UMC, please contact Dot Pickens or Allen Fanslow. Additional help is very much needed and always appreciated. We will cook before the dinner – date to be announced.
- ~ At Community Suppers on December 26, we had help from Wally and Ed Yeager, Marsha Piper, Renate Krakovich, Laura Buttress and friend Edgar, Carole and Allen Fanslow. We had 55 first-timers. The crowd was small, but they enjoyed our meal – cost was \$153.00.

WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP ~ By: Carole J. Fanslow, President

- ~ The **Executive Board Committee** will be meeting on Thursday, February 7 at 12 pm.
- ~ On Thursday, February 21 at 12 noon, there will be a **Bring Your Own Sandwich Luncheon**. Cost is \$5; Dessert and beverage will be provided. The program is an Afternoon of Bingo.



COMMUNITY GROUPS AND HAPPENINGS

MIDDLEBROOK FARMS

WORSHIP SERVICE will be on Thursday, February 7 at 2:00 pm
with Deacons Waltraud Yeager and Carole Fanslow.

CHURCH WOMEN UNITED



“Spread the Love” Please **donate school supplies**
for Wilbur Cross School, Bridgeport by Sunday, February 10. A program of Church
Women United to bring school supplies to the children on Valentine’s Day.

COUNCIL OF CHURCHES OF GREATER BRIDGEPORT

- ~ **February Clergy Luncheon** is on Wednesday, February 6 at 12-1:30pm at St. John’s, 768 Fairfield Avenue, Bridgeport.
- ~ **Delegates Meeting** is on Tuesday, March 12 at St. Paul’s Episcopal, Fairfield.
- ~ **Spring Fling** is on Thursday, April 4. “Sister Act” at Downtown Cabaret Theatre.

TRUMBULL INTERFAITH COUNCIL

- ~ The **next meeting** of TIC will be on Wednesday, February 6 at 7:00 pm at Long Hill United Methodist Church, 6358 Main Street, Trumbull.
- ~ The **Good Friday Service** on April 19, 2019 will be held at Unity Hill United Church of Christ. The offering will be donated to Trumbull Social Services.

45th ANNUAL C.R.O.P. HUNGER WALK

- ~ **CROP Board Meeting** on Monday, March 4 at 7:00 pm at Unity Hill UCC.
- ~ The **CROP Rally** will be on Sunday, March 31 at Trumbull Congregational Church at 2:00 pm. Come and learn all about the work of CROP and Church World Service.
- ~ The **45th Annual CROP Walk** is on Sunday, May 5th.

CHURCH WORLD SERVICE KITS ~ Responding to 2019's Natural Disasters

*It is **CHURCH WORLD SERVICE KIT** time again. This is an all-church project, so we hope when the kits are dedicated on Sunday, April 7, the altar will be completely covered! CWS Kits are small packages of supplies assembled by volunteers and shipped to families and communities in need around the world – especially in the aftermath of disasters such as Hurricane Florence and Hurricane Michael. We're rushing supplies to our neighbors in the wake of these crises around the world, and we need your help. **If you are unable to shop, the cost of kits is \$15 plus \$2 for processing fee; or ask a member of the Women's Fellowship Executive Board to shop for you. Thank you! Please do not enclose money or extra items inside the kits!***

CWS HYGIENE KITS can mean the difference between sickness and health for struggling families in the face of natural disasters, violence, or grinding poverty. <http://cwskits.org/assemble-kits/hygiene-kits/> All items need to fit inside a one-gallon plastic zipper closure bag. Remove the excess air from the bag and seal before boxing. Do not add any extra items or toothpaste. A tube of extended expiration date toothpaste will be added to each Kit just prior to its journey.

Value: \$15; Processing fee: \$2 per Kit * * Do not enclose money inside the kits or in the shipping boxes.

SUPPLIES NEEDED:

One hand towel measuring approximately 15"x 28" to 16"x 32" (no fingertip, bath, dish towel or micro-fiber) One washcloth One wide-tooth comb removed from the package One toothbrush in the original package	One fingernail or toenail clipper removed from the package (either acceptable) One bath size bar of soap in the original wrapper Ten standard size Band-aids
--	--

CWS SCHOOL KITS give children in impoverished schools, refugee camps, or other difficult settings some of the basic tools for learning. <http://cwskits.org/assemble-kits/school-kits/>

All items must be packed inside of the cloth bag.

Value: \$15; Processing fee: \$2 per Kit * * Do not enclose money inside the kits or in the shipping boxes.

Supplies needed:

One pair of blunt scissors removed from the package (rounded tip, only) Three 70-count bound notebooks or notebooks totaling 200-210 pages (No loose-leaf or filler paper.) One 12-inch/30-centimeter ruler One hand-held pencil sharpener removed from the package	One large eraser (no pencil cap erasers) Six new, unsharpened pencils with erasers removed from the package One box of 24 crayons (only 24) One 12"x14" to 14"x17" finished size cotton or lightweight canvas bag with cloth handles (solid color or kid-friendly fabric; no logos; no reusable shopping bags or backpacks)
--	--

If these signs are present CALL 9-1-1

HEART ATTACK SYMPTOMS

CHEST DISCOMFORT - Most heart attacks involve discomfort in the center of the chest that lasts more than a few minutes, or that goes away and comes back. It can feel like uncomfortable pressure, squeezing, fullness or pain.

DISCOMFORT IN OTHER AREAS OF THE UPPER BODY - Symptoms can include pain or discomfort in one or both arms, the back, neck, jaw or stomach.

SHORTNESS OF BREATH - with or without chest discomfort.

OTHER SIGNS - may include breaking out in a cold sweat, nausea or lightheadedness.

STROKE SYMPTOMS

Spot a stroke **F.A.S.T.**

FACE DROOPING - Does one side of the face droop or is it numb? Ask the person to smile.

ARM WEAKNESS - Is one arm weak or numb? Ask the person to raise both arms. Does one arm drift downward?

SPEECH DIFFICULTY - Is speech slurred, are they unable to speak, or are they hard to understand? Ask the person to repeat a simple sentence, like "the sky is blue." Is the sentence repeated correctly?

TIME TO CALL 9-1-1 - If the person shows any of these symptoms, even if the symptoms go away, call 9-1-1 and get them to the hospital immediately.

CARDIAC ARREST SYMPTOMS

SUDDEN LOSS OF RESPONSIVENESS - No response to tapping on shoulders.

NO NORMAL BREATHING - The victim does not take a normal breath when you tilt the head up and check for at least five seconds.

From: American Heart Association <https://www.heart.org/en/about-us/heart-attack-and-stroke-symptoms>

HAPPY BIRTHDAY IN FEBRUARY!

6 Lori Brezina	18 Marion Gaetano
9 Robert Schneider	20 Carol Dunn
10 Patrick Parker	20 Lauren Parker
11 Little Eagle Piper	24 Carole Fanslow
13 Cooper Shipley	25 Dorothy Vars
14 Mary Acri	26 Marsha Piper
16 Courty Vars	27 Cynthia Henderson
18 Ilse Plitt	



February 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3	4 Committee Reports to Council due today	5	6 9:30am Meditation 7pm Trumbull Interfaith Council	7 12pm Women's Fellowship Executive Board Meeting 2:00pm Middlebrook Farms Worship Service	8	9
10 10:30am Fairfield County-wide Worship Event	11 7:00pm Church Council Meeting	12	13 9:30am Meditation 11:30am Kennedy Center – crafts	14 11:30am–1pm George's Hill OUTLOOK INFO DEADLINE <u>Valentine's Day</u>	15	16 1:30-3:30pm Overeaters' Anonymous Intergroup Meeting
17	18 <u>Presidents' Day</u> Office is closed	19	20 9:30am Meditation	21 12pm Women's Fellowship Bring Your Own Sandwich Luncheon	22	23
24	25	26	27 9:30am Meditation Golden Hill Community Suppers Program 2pm Cook; 5pm Serve	28		

Dear St. Valentine,
help us learn to
love unselfishly
and to find great
joy in giving.
Enable all true lovers
to bring out the best
♥ in each other. ♥



Unity Hill United Church of Christ
The Rev. M. Todd Shipley, Pastor
364 White Plains Road
Trumbull, CT 06611
203-374-8822
www.unityhillucc.org