

MAY 2018 OUTLOOK

Unity Hill United Church of Christ "Where God's Love Grows a Family"

364 White Plains Road, Trumbull, CT 06611

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

The Reverend M. Todd Shipley, Pastor

Diane Henderson, Moderator

Dawn Brezina, Church Clerk

Shari Herman, Bookkeeper

Dorothy W. Pickens, Soloist

Joanne Wickson, Office Administrator

Louise Evans, R.N., Parish Nurse

Calap Brown, Sexton

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Office Hours: Monday – Friday 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.  
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OUTLOOK DEADLINE ~ We welcome contributions to our monthly newsletter and invite you to share information, or even something more creative! The **JUNE 2018 Outlook** will be published at the end of MAY. All submissions, special announcements, articles or events **provided on, or before, the DEADLINE of Wednesday, MAY 16** will be included.

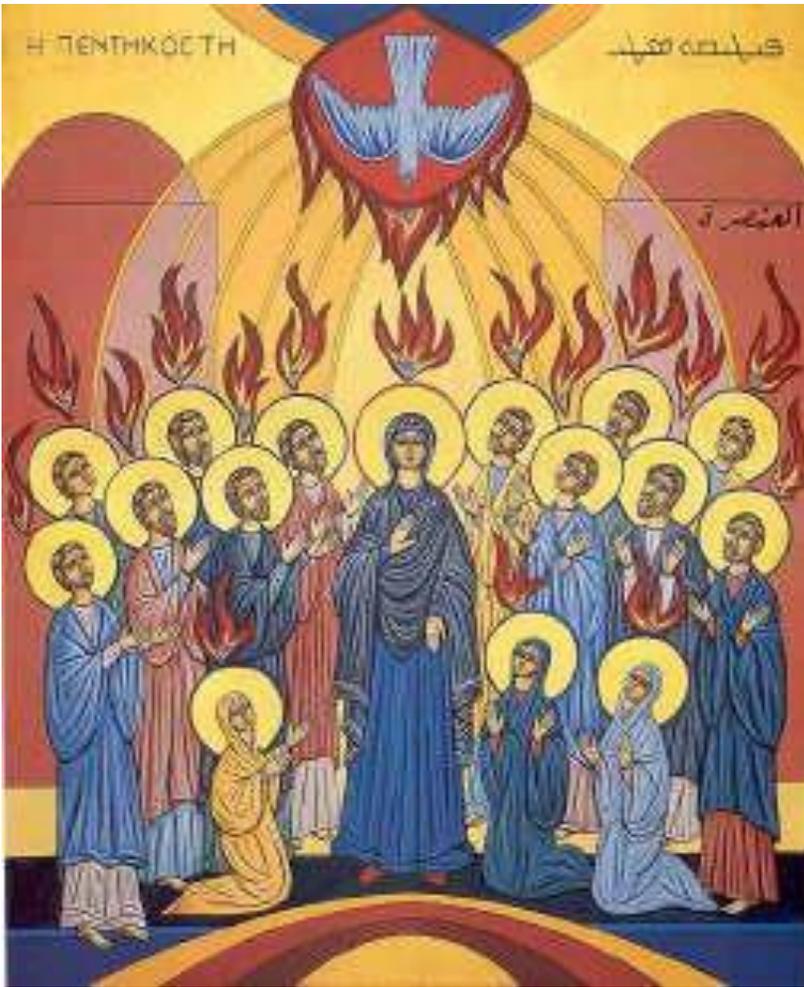


Please remember our homebound in your prayers or with a note:

Hazel Berger, Dolores Colaiacomo, Gail Gorlo,
Katie Schneider, Mitch Wein and Nellie Wirth.

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.





During our Eastertide worships this year we have been celebrating those qualities of God that are revealed to us in the resurrection. A word that has been used often in these worship services has been 'pursuit.' God pursues us continually and awaits our response to this chase but it seems clear that we do not always experience Gods pursuit, let alone allow ourselves to be caught!

If you don't understand the question you are being asked, then it is unlikely you will be able to provide unintelligible answer. Yet I think we see God's solution to the possibility of being misunderstood in the events Pentecost, which we will commemorate on Sunday May 20th. It goes something like this:

Jesus has ascended to heaven before the eyes of the Apostles promising that an Advocate would come and help

them with their mission spread the healing message of the gospel to the ends of the earth. A few days after this promise they are gathered together again when a rushing wind overwhelms them and tongues like fire come to rest on them. The real miracle though is that all of the people gathered to hear the followers Jesus speak, hearths in their own language. People from all over the known world were gathered to listen and all heard the Gospel of Jesus Christ in their Mother Tongue! Bible Scholars estimate there were at least 70 major languages represented at this gathering in Jerusalem.

We can see from the icon of Pentecost above, the movement of the Holy Spirit that is God, it is DOWN. God comes down to our level. God moves slower and lower and becomes still if God needs to, but God wants unto understand. Sometimes OFTEN in fact people that speak the same language fail to understand one another. So just speaking the same language as someone proclaiming the gospel would not ensure they understood power of possibility of that message. God does not relent. God will never cease the pursuit. The Spirit will descend on stoop and rest on you and speak to you ... is this the time you will hear God's freeing word for you?

Yours,
Pastor Todd

CHURCH UPDATES

BELIEVING THE RESURRECTION

Eastertide Brunch Bible Study *
Sundays during coffee hour

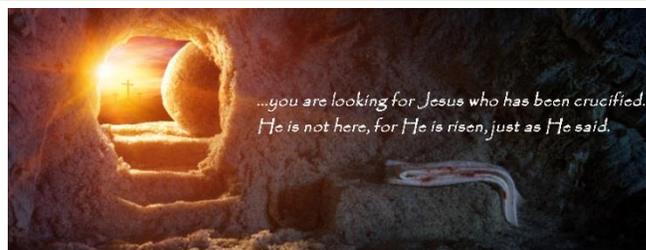
11:45-12:30 * Food will be provided

May 6 – Jesus Says

May 13 - MOTHER'S Day - NO CLASS

May 20 - The Resurrection according to Peter

May 27 – The Resurrection according to Paul



MEDITATION WORKSHOP Every Wednesday 9:30 – 10:30 am in the sanctuary

PENTECOST SUNDAY is May 20.

MEMORIAL DAY – Monday, May 28 – *Office is closed.*



FELLOWSHIP HOUR SIGN UP



Please sign up to provide snacks and drinks for fellowship time after worship. Feel free to pick a Sunday to celebrate a special occasion such as a birthday or anniversary. Money donations also accepted and we will do the shopping for you. Thank you so much. Any questions, call Joanne in the office at 203-374-8822.



**BEATLES TRIBUTE BAND
BENEFIT CONCERT at
Unity Hill UCC
George's Hill - Alzheimer's
Fundraiser
"THE PENNY LANE BAND"
Saturday, May 12
Showtime 7:00 pm
General Admission
Tickets are \$20.00**

GEORGE'S HILL



Thursday, May 10 from 11:30 am until 1 pm, including lunch.

George's Hill is a social engagement group for persons with memory problems or early dementia, and their caregivers, where they can meet with other people with similar problems, for a fun program and lunch, which is provided. 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!**

MISSIONS ~ By: Brenda Finizio, Chair

Deuteronomy 15:11 *For there will never cease to be poor in the land. Therefore I command you, 'You shall open wide your hand to your brother, to the needy and to the poor, in your land.'*

Matthew 5:16 *In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.*

STRENGTHEN THE CHURCH ~ UCC SPECIAL OFFERING supports the expansion of ministry and growth of UCC local congregations. Your support of this offering will help the UCC fulfill on its commitment to creating a just world for all by investing in new ministries and practices that meet the emerging needs of local communities. As God calls our congregations to be the church in new ways, your generosity will plant new churches, awaken new ideas in existing churches and develop the spiritual life in our youth and young adults. Most congregations will receive the STC offering on Pentecost Sunday, May 20, 2018.

The Mission committee will have a **HEALTHY FOOD DRIVE** starting in mid-May through end of June. This is a good time to donate because food banks usually have a shortage in the summer and there's a lot of need with children home from school. We can create teams and compete again! Details to follow.

I'm still waiting for **TEEN VOLUNTEERS** to attend one of the 2018 SILVER LAKE MISSION TRIPS. The trip will be supported by the Missions Committee so it's a great opportunity. The trip is to Orland, Maine to build homes, do farm work and cook in soup kitchen.

Church World Service Hygiene, school kits and cleanup buckets were assembled by Women's Fellowship. Thanks for the donations!

Mission has recently supported the following:

Duke Medical Center for Children - \$250

Center for Children Advocacy, CT - \$250

Medical treatment for Christians in third world countries - \$1,000

Educational Programs - \$450

Missions will be matching the donations to Golden Hill UMC fundraiser to assist the Outreach ministries as well as funding the dinners provided by Unity Hill UCC.

Thank you for all your support. Brenda Finizio, Mission Chair, Carole Fanslow and Marsha Piper.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION ~ By: Sharon Brezina, Chair

We finished up the "Beatitudes...U-attitudes"!! Everyone seemed to enjoy the segment – got some pretty nifty crafts out of it too!! So, we move on to "The Bible". We will be covering this until the end of the school year. We will be breaking it down into parts:

- 1) How did we get the Bible
- 2) How can we know the Bible is true?
- 3) Organization of the Bible
 - ** Old Testament
 - ** New Testament
- 4) How to study the Bible

In between we will be learning the basic make-up of the bible – how many books? How many authors? Etc. So far – with the help of Emily Brezina – this has been a great learning session. We should all be very proud of the kids.

Enjoy the beautiful weather – can't wait to start having class outside ;)

CHURCH COUNCIL ~ By: Moderator, Diane Henderson

COMMITTEE REPORTS FOR MAY COUNCIL MEETING are due in office by Monday, May 7.
CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING ~ Monday, May 14 at 6:30 pm.

FELLOWSHIP GROUPS

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

- ~ The **Executive Board** will be meeting for **PROGRAM PLANNING FOR 2018-2019** before the luncheon on Thursday, May 17 at 10:00 am. Please let us know of any programs you would like to see.
- ~ On Thursday, May 17 we will have our Annual Luncheon out at Stonebridge Restaurant, 33 Daniels Street, Milford at 12:30 pm. Dutch Treat. Sign up on the bulletin board or call the office.

FELLOWSHIP OF UNITY HILL ~ By: Dot Pickens, President 2018

- ~ Many thanks to those who helped at **Golden Hill Community Suppers** at Golden Hill United Methodist Church on Wednesday, April 25. The meal was cooked at church on Sunday, April 22.
- ~ Our next turn at **Golden Hill Community Suppers** will be on Wednesday, June 27. No formal invitation is needed – just come down and give us a hand - we are always very grateful to those that help out! Come to cook at Golden Hill United Methodist Church at 2 pm or to help serve at 5 pm. Questions, contact Dot Pickens or Allen Fanslow.

COMMUNITY GROUPS AND HAPPENINGS

TRUMBULL INTERFAITH COUNCIL

~ **Monthly Meeting** of TIC will be Wednesday, May 2 at 7:00 pm at Unity Hill United Church of Christ, Trumbull.

COUNCIL OF CHURCHES OF GREATER BRIDGEPORT

~ **ANNUAL SPRING FLING** fundraiser Thursday, May 3 at the Downtown Cabaret Theater, Bridgeport; 6:15 Reception; 7 PM Program - honoring First Baptist Church, Stratford and First Church Congregational, Fairfield ... and then the Tony Award Winning Broadway show! For Info and Tickets call 203-334-1121 or visit www.ccg.org/springfling



~ **Annual Meeting** of CCGB is on Thursday, June 7th - 6:00pm to 8:30pm There is no charge and all are welcome. **Pastors & Delegates are strongly encouraged to come!** Delegates will be voting on nominations to the Board of Directors. **PLEASE RSVP if you plan to come for dinner, so we can prepare!** Phone: 203-334-1121

**VOLUNTEERS
NEEDED**

~ **WE NEED YOUR HELP!** The Council is looking for volunteers to help out in the office. If you have a couple of hours to give, once in a while or on a regular schedule, please contact Lynn at lynnhudler@ccgb.org or call 203-334-1121.

44th ANNUAL CROP HUNGER WALK



The 44th Annual CROP Walk will take place on Sunday, May 6 beginning at 1:30 at Seaside Park, Bridgeport. Take a walk in the park with lots of church people on that day. It's not too late to sign up. Please see Dot Pickens or Marsha Piper for walk envelopes. Remember: our walkers would appreciate many sponsors. Bring healthy non-perishable food items for local food banks to the walk with you and thank you. For info, see the bulletin board, call 203-375-1284 or visit www.cropwalk.org

FAIRFIELD EAST ASSOCIATION

Save the Date! On Wednesday, May 30, FEA will hold their **Annual Meeting** in Bethel.

CT CONFERENCE OF UCC

Annual Meeting is in Springfield, Massachusetts on June 15 and 16.

CHURCH WORLD SERVICE KITS



Thank you to those who responded to the annual kit program sponsored by Church World Service. Dedicated on Sunday, April 15, there were 11 school kits and 13 hygiene kits. In addition, money was given for one emergency cleanup bucket and 5 hygiene kits. Thank you to those who cared about the needs of others.

HEALTH CORNER: National Stroke Awareness Month

WHAT IS A STROKE? - A stroke occurs when blood flow to the brain is interrupted. When a stroke occurs, brain cells in the immediate area begin to die because they no longer receive the oxygen and nutrients they need to function.

TYPES OF STROKES - A stroke can occur in two ways. In an ischemic stroke, a blood clot blocks or plugs a blood vessel or artery in the brain. About 80 percent of all strokes are ischemic. In an hemorrhagic stroke, a blood vessel in the brain breaks and bleeds into the brain. About 20 percent of strokes are hemorrhagic.

SYMPTOMS OF STROKE - What makes stroke symptoms distinct is their sudden onset:

- Sudden numbness or weakness of face, arm or leg — especially on one side of the body
- Sudden confusion or trouble speaking or understanding
- Sudden trouble seeing in one or both eyes
- Sudden trouble walking, dizziness, loss of balance or coordination.
- Sudden severe headache with no known cause

WHY CAN'T SOME VICTIMS IDENTIFY STROKE SYMPTOMS? Because stroke injures the brain, one is not able to perceive one's own problems correctly. To a bystander, the stroke patient may seem unaware or confused. A stroke victim's best chance is if someone around her recognizes the stroke and acts quickly.

WHAT SHOULD A BYSTANDER DO? Bystanders should know the signs and act in time. If you believe someone is having a stroke — if they lose the ability to speak, or move an arm or leg on one side, or experience facial paralysis on one side — call 911 immediately. Stroke is a medical emergency. Immediate treatment may save someone's life and enhance his or her chances for successful rehabilitation and recovery.

NEED TO ACT FAST! Ischemic strokes, the most common strokes, can be treated with a drug called t-PA which dissolves artery-obstructing clots. The window of opportunity to use t-PA to treat stroke patients is three hours, but to be evaluated and receive treatment, patients need to get to the hospital within 60 minutes. A five-year clinical trial conducted by NINDS found that selected stroke patients who received t-PA within three hours of the onset of stroke symptoms were at least 30 percent more likely than placebo patients to recover from their stroke with little or no disability after three months.

RISK FACTORS FOR STROKE - There are things you can do to prevent stroke. High blood pressure increases your risk of stroke four to six times. Heart disease, especially a condition known as atrial fibrillation or AF, can double your risk of stroke. Your risk also increases if you smoke, have diabetes, sickle cell disease, high cholesterol, or a family history of stroke.

REDUCE YOUR RISK OF STROKE - To reduce your risk of stroke monitor your blood pressure, track your cholesterol level, stop smoking, exercise regularly and find out if you should be taking a drug to reduce blood clotting.

Information from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention,
 1600 Clifton Rd., Atlanta, GA 30333 / 800-CDC-INFO (800-232-4636)
www.cdc.gov/stroke/index.htm

HAPPY BIRTHDAY IN MAY!

2 Patricia Bowman	12 Emily Brezina
6 Donald Gorlo	25 Dorothy Barwick
12 Maddie Gaetano	26 Paulette Shipley
12 Norman Aanensen	



HAPPY ANNIVERSARY IN MAY!

May 17 Waltraud and Edward Yeager



May 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2 9am Meditation 7pm TIC meeting at Unity Hill UCC	3 6:15pm CCGB Spring Fling Fundraiser	4 <i>Joanne on vacation</i>	5 12-4pm Overeaters Anonymous Workshop
6 11:45am Bible Study Brunch 1:30pm CROP Hunger Walk	7 Committee Reports to Council Due in Office by Today <i>Joanne on vacation</i>	8	9 9am Meditation 11:30-2:30 Kennedy Center- crafts	10 11:30am George's Hill	11	12 7:00pm Beatles Music George's Hill/ Fundraiser
13 <i>Happy Mother's Day!</i> No Bible Study	14 6:30pm Church Council Meeting	15	16 9am Meditation OUTLOOK INFO FOR JUNE DEADLINE	17 10am Women's Fellowship Executive Board Meeting 12:30pm WF Luncheon Out at Stonebridge Restaurant	18	19 2-3:30pm Overeaters' Anonymous Intergroup Meeting
20 11:45am Bible Study Brunch	21	22	23 9am Meditation	24	25	26
27 11:45am Bible Study Brunch	28 Office closed <small>REMEMBER THOSE WHO SERVED</small>  <small>ALL GAVE SOME, SOME GAVE ALL</small>	29	30 9am Meditation	31		



Memorial
DAY
*Remembering those who served
and gave their all.*

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

**Unity Hill United Church of Christ
The Rev. M. Todd Shipley, Pastor
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