

SUMMER 2017 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

Lucille Baver, Moderator

Diane Henderson, Vice-Moderator

Shari Herman, Interim Bookkeeper

Dawn Brezina, Financial Secretary

David Brezina, Church Clerk

Dorothy W. Pickens, Soloist

Louise Evans, R.N., Parish Nurse

Joanne Wickson, Office Administrator

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 **SEPTEMBER 2017 Outlook** will be published at the end of AUGUST. All submissions, special announcements, articles or events **provided on, or before, the DEADLINE of Wednesday, AUGUST 16** will be included.



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.



Please remember our homebound in your prayers or with a note:
Hazel Berger, Dolores Colaiacomo, Elsie Rapposch,
Katie Schneider, Mitch Wein and Nellie Wirth.

Members Only!

I thought that might get your attention.

This being the last newsletter before Fall, I want to ask you all for a favor. This Summer, I would like you to pray for Unity Hill every day, but for something specific. Please pray that all those in our community who need the healing that a church home can provide find their way into our sanctuary. We are a small community church that is very welcoming. We have members that have walked through tough times in their life with Jesus at their side, and we can share that faith with people who may be going through their own tough time. So please, on a daily basis, let's put into God's hand the request that those looking to find Him again, with the help of Jesus, walk through the doors of Unity Hill.

Yours,

Pastor Todd

CHURCH UPDATES



FELLOWSHIP HOUR SIGN-UP

Please sign up to provide snacks and drinks for fellowship time after worship. We have openings for all of the Sundays in July and August. Please sign up on the bulletin board or call the office to have Joanne sign you up.

MEDITATION WORKSHOP

Every Wednesday 9:30 – 10:30 am in the sanctuary with Pastor Todd.

INDEPENDENCE DAY AND LABOR DAY ~ Tuesday, July 4 and Monday, September 4
Our office will be closed for the holidays.

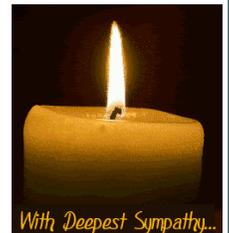


A WEDDING! ~ CONGRATULATIONS!

On Sunday, July 16, Curran Vars, grandson of Rose Vars and son of David and Radhika Vars, will be married in New Jersey. Congratulations to the happy couple. May God bless your marriage with love, joy and friendship all the years of your lives!

OUR CONDOLENCES

Michael J. Zawadski passed away on May 27. His memorial service was held at Unity Hill UCC on Saturday, June 3. He was predeceased by his wife Melissa Fama Zawadski. Our deepest sympathy is extended to his mother, Roseann Giordanella and his family members.



THANK YOU SO MUCH! Maddy Rondon sent us a lovely thank you note for helping her collect money for the Epilepsy Foundation. See her card on the bulletin board.

GEORGE'S HILL

Thursday, July 13 and Thursday, August 10 from 11:30 am until 1 pm.

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!**



"We're Not Alone" ~ poem written by Mary Przybylowicz about George's Hill



When I was young and in my prime, I used to do it all the time.

Now that I'm old and gray, I only do it once a day.

George's Hill is the place to be, to smile and laugh and just be me.

It's easy here, we come and say, "We're not alone each and every day."

It's been almost 3 or 4 long years and we're still standing and not shedding too many tears.

The Brezina's and Pastor Todd make us happy and that's not odd or too sappy.

Let's not forget our Chef Jeff, he seems to be the only one left.

He comes in here and sings and plays to make us happy on many, many days.

I want to say thank you for all you do to keep us happy all year through.

George's Hill is the place to be for people like you and plain old me.

We're not alone, that's what we say, so remember that each and every day!

CHURCH COUNCIL ~ By: Moderator, Lucille Baver

COMMITTEE REPORTS TO COUNCIL are due in church office by **Tuesday, September 5.**

CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING on **Monday, September 11 at 7:00 pm.**

DIACONATE ~ By: Patricia Bowman, Chair

Diaconate will be meeting on Tuesday, September 5 at 1:00 p.m.

Diaconate members: Pat Bowman-Chair, Florence Brezina, Allen Fanslow, Marie Seavey & Pastor Todd

SIGN UP FOR BEING A LAY READER OR USHERS/GREETERS DURING THE SUMMER

Please remember to sign up to be a Lay Reader or an Usher/Greeter during the summer.

You can sign up on the bulletin board in Lynch Hall or call the office any time during the week.

Lay Readers will be reading a scripture reading from the Bible during the service.

Greeters/Ushers - On Sunday, you arrive by 10:15am to ensure you are prepared to greet any newcomers or those who may need assistance. You will be the face of Unity Hill to all those who worship with us that week so dress for the part and enjoy greeting your fellow worshippers. Before the service – you will ensure that the candles on the communion table are lit before the service. Pastor Todd keeps matches in his pulpit. See the rest of the duties posted on the bulletin board next to the sign-up sheet. Blessings for your service to the congregation and community as you welcome all to share in the Word.

BUILDING AND GROUNDS COMMITTEE ~ By: Carol Dunn

B&G Committee: Henry Parker - Chair, John Rossi, Steve Pickens and Carol Dunn

We don't know about you, but it seemed as if winter would never end. Suddenly summer is here ... but what happened to spring. So ---- while you enjoy your vacation time, we just want you to know that the B&G team will be working diligently for you making repairs, and improvements to the Church.

Please check the 'Building & Grounds' Bulletin Board often for notices.

We wish you all a happy and safe summer.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION COMMITTEE ~ By: Sharon Brezina, Chair

Summer has already begun for most of the kids here at Unity Hill, but before they left we really put them to work.

On **Mother's Day**, May 14, the children read the beautiful poem we printed last month.

June 4th was **Youth Sunday** and it was amazing. Not only were the kids able to show off their many talents – but for the most part Pastor got to sit back, relax and enjoy the time with other parishioners.

I want to thank the following who made this day such a success:

Greeters – Katie, Eden, Samantha, Hayden, Athan and Cooper

Ushers – Kaelyn and Mary Acri

Preachers – Emily and David

Sermon by – Laura

Readers – Cooper, Katie, Sarah, Samantha, KJ and Laura

Dance performance to “Amazing Grace” – Eden and Samantha (led by Paulette)

Solo's by Sarah, Emily and Kaelyn

Singers – EVERYONE!!

We sang old songs, we sang new songs. We spread the word with laughter, song and dance!

We thank Mr. Coulson for posing for a portrait during the sermon and all those artists who drew him. A real trooper!!

We sent 5 kids off with a care package to Silver Lake this summer. Here's hoping you all have the best spiritually-filled time at camp and come back with lots of great stories!

Sending graduation Shout-outs to Hannah Bowman (University of Tampa) and Christina Finizio (Somewhere in North Carolina) 😊

Also, we want to thank Lily, our CE helper, who will be leaving us in August for St Andrews College in Vermont.

Enjoy your sendoff gifts – may you be safe and blessed on this new adventure in life!

Wow – it was an amazing day – so proud of everyone who made it a great success!!

On **Father's Day**, June 18, the kids split into 2 age groups – both presenting to the congregation a Father's Day poem that said what they were feeling. Emily created an AMAZING Dad's day video by interviewing the children of the church ... Though we couldn't get it to work during service – it was enjoyed by all who gathered in the hall later. Great job Em!! Then the children handed out a little gift for all the Dads, Pops, Grandfathers, Uncles and any male role models that help our children be better people in God's eyes. Thank-you!

This summer the kids will be working on organizing their school space downstairs, doing some volunteering, fundraising and more. We are all very excited.

Have a safe and happy summer

Sharon Brezina - CE chair

MISSIONS COMMITTEE – “Stay Connected” ~ By: Brenda Finizio, Chair

“Declare his glory among the nations, his marvelous works among all the peoples!” (1 Chronicles 16:24)

SILVER LAKE MISSION TRIPS ~ We are still waiting for teen volunteers to attend one of the 2017 Silver Lake Mission trips. The trip will be supported by the Missions Committee so it's a great opportunity. The two mission trips to choose from are:

July 16th- July 22nd - Orland, Maine – build homes, farm work and cook in soup kitchen

July 30th – August 5th - Hartford, CT – live and serve in city for 1/2 week and other half will focus on food justice in urban and rural settings.

HEALTHY FOOD DRIVE

Thank you for all the healthy food donations. We will deliver at the end of June, just in time for summer!

Our Churches Wider Mission ~ \$650 was sent for One Great Hour of Sharing. This included collections and allocated budget for this offering. One of the areas of focus is to help end world hunger. The next OCWM offering is Strengthen the Church.

SHARON'S RIDE, RUN & WALK ~ Missions matched the collection of \$252 for epilepsy awareness by supporting Maddy Rondon on the Sharon's Ride, Run & Walk drive. Thank you for your generous donations.

HAITIAN HELPING HANDS

Thank you for all the donations being brought down to Haiti to support the members of The Church of the Apostles of Christ and Cornerstone School. The Gaetano's brought 6 large suitcases of supplies from their church in Canada, as well as their own donations. Many thanks to Criss Gaetano for packing up to ship what couldn't be carried to Haiti. 6 crates full of supplies!



I plan to join Marion Gaetano on the trip so we can multi-task and complete all we need to accomplish. One of the projects we will be working on is to create a profile of each child and their family so others back home can choose a child and his/her family to support. We will also be working to get the paperwork completed to bring 10-year-old Victoria to visit the US. She has Leukemia.

COUNCIL OF CHURCHES GREATER BRIDGEPORT ~ The Janus Center for Youth in Crisis is hosting a free **Summer Enrichment Program** from July 5 to August 4, with a grant from the John Patrick Flanagan Foundation. It will be held 3 days a week 9-1pm. If you know any families who are interested or want to help, please contact Rachel at 203 334-1121. Also, they are looking for help with transportation or donations to provide transportation.

Thank you for all your support. Special thanks to committee members, Carole Fanslow and Marsha Piper.

Brenda Finizio, Mission Chair

FELLOWSHIP GROUPS

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

- ~ We will kick-off the fall season on Thursday, September 21 with a trip to Plasko's Farm in Trumbull. We will carpool from the church at 12:00 pm. Cost is \$7.00 per person.
 - ~ The next meeting of the **Executive Board** will also be on Thursday, September 21 at 11:00 am.
 - ~ Watch for our new program flyer out this fall. Lots of great programs are on the agenda including the postponed Ukrainian Easter Egg demonstration planned for March, 2018. Our meetings are always open to all members and friends of Unity Hill UCC.
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FELLOWSHIP OF UNITY HILL ~ By: Dot Pickens, President 2016

Our next turn at **Golden Hill Community Suppers** will be Wednesday, June 28. Our meal will feature Baked Macaroni and Cheese, and will be prepared after church on Sunday, June 25. Many hands make light work. Help is always needed and welcomed either at 2:00 pm to help fix the meal or 5:00 pm to help serve. Any questions, ask Dot Pickens or Allen Fanslow. We will not be cooking or serving a meal in August, so our next turn at Golden Hill will be on Wednesday, October 25.

COMMUNITY GROUPS AND HAPPENINGS

MIDDLEBROOK FARMS WORSHIP SERVICE

Worship service at Middlebrook Farms in Trumbull will be on Thursday, July 6, Thursday, August 3 and Thursday, September 7 at 2 pm with Deacons Wally Yeager and Carole Fanslow.

FAITH AND FAMILY NIGHT AT BRIDGEPORT BLUEFISH BASEBALL GAME



On Wednesday, June 28th the Bridgeport Bluefish will be hosting a **Faith and Family Night** at the Ballpark at Harbor Yard. We are inviting people of all faiths to come enjoy a baseball game with a family-friendly atmosphere. At 6:12 pm, the gates will open, with first pitch scheduled for 7:12 pm, at which time the Bluefish will take on the York Revolution. Come with your family! **Call today to get a four pack of tickets and four food vouchers for only \$48.** In a deal that is worth \$80, get four tickets to the game and four food vouchers good for a hot dog, a bag of chips, and a bottle of water each. Or come to the game with a large group. Group tickets are \$12 per ticket. All places of worship that book a group in advance of the game will have their institutions recognized over the PA and on the video board during the game. If you have any questions, please feel free to call Robert Boehler, Box Office Manager at 203-416-1762 or Joanna Spencer, Group Sales Coordinator at 203-416-1720.

SILVER LAKE CONFERENCE AND SUMMER CAMP

SUMMER CONFERENCES ~ If you couldn't make the Open House, contact the office at 860-364-5526 to schedule a time to visit and a tour of camp. Take some time to look around the website

<http://www.silverlakeect.org/summercamp>

SILVER LAKE CONFERENCE CENTER'S 60TH ANNIVERSARY ~ Saturday, August 26 ~ 11 am - 5pm

Tickets are \$15 per person with a family maximum of \$60. Commemorative 60th anniversary T-shirts can be purchased at the time of registration for an additional \$10. A cookout lunch will be provided, as well as time to participate in traditional Silver Lake activities, explore on your own, take a group decade photo, and join in worship. To register, call the Silver Lake Office at 860-364-5526 or online at

www.ultracamp.com/info/sessiondetail.aspx?idCamp=399&campCode=slc&idSession=155438

11TH ANNUAL SILVER LAKE GOLF TOURNAMENT was postponed due to rain. The new date is Tuesday, Sept. 12 at the Lyman Orchards Golf Club in Middlefield, Connecticut. Entry fee is \$185 per player and includes greens fees, cart, lunch, and After-play Reception. <http://www.silverlakeect.org/golftournament>

COUNCIL OF CHURCHES OF GREATER BRIDGEPORT

SUMMERSONG 2017 ~ A Fun Summer Musical Theater Camp, under the direction of Kristin Huffman, will take place **July 10-14 and/or July 17-21** at Salem Lutheran Church, 3160 Park Avenue, Bridgeport. Closing performances on Fridays @ 5 p.m. Children between the ages of 5 and 14 will sing, dance, act and learn how to perform in a musical play guided by a professional and committed staff of instructors, culminating in a performance on Friday for family and friends. Tuition is \$200 per week, \$500 for families with 3 or more children for those registering by June 1. Some partial scholarship help may be given for those in need.

For more information, please visit www.salembridgeport.org/summersong or call the church office at (203) 336-3300.

43rd ANNUAL CROP HUNGER WALK

On Sunday, May 7th many people from Unity Hill walked in the 43rd annual CROP Hunger Walk. Final results are in for our walkers ... they raised \$1343. Many thanks to our walkers and to those who sponsored them.



GOLDEN HILL UMC COMMUNITY SUPPER

Our next turn will be on June 28 – additional help is always appreciated beginning at 2:00 pm.
We won't be serving in August so the next time will be on Wednesday, October 25.

TRUMBULL INTERFAITH COUNCIL

- ~ The annual **Clergy Supper** will be on Wednesday, September 13 at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church at 6 pm.
 - ~ The next meeting of Trumbull Interfaith Council will be Wednesday, September 6 at 7pm at St. Theresa's.
 - ~ After many years, the Pastoral Council Center closed its Trumbull office on June 1. The Center began many years ago under the sponsorship of the Trumbull Interfaith Committee. Their last office was located at Unity Hill UCC. The center, under the leadership of the Rev. Dr. John Sandel will continue to operate in the Milford Office. He can be reached at 203-877-7713 or at www.thecounselingcenters.org.
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CONNECTICUT CONFERENCE OF THE UCC



GENERAL SYNOD 2017

GENERAL SYNOD 2017 ~ June 30-July 4, 2017 in Baltimore, Maryland
Thousands from across the country (and abroad) will gather for General Synod 31. Together, we will discern resolutions of witness, church structure, and function. We will stand up for issues that demand a faithful witness. And we will join together in worship each day to lift up the Stillspeaking God.

HEALTH CORNER: *Shingles and the Shingles Vaccine*

In the U.S., currently 1 million people get shingles every year, and about one out of every three people will get shingles in their lifetime.

What is shingles? Shingles, also known as zoster or herpes zoster, is a painful skin rash caused by the varicella zoster virus, the same virus that causes chickenpox. If you have had chickenpox, you are at risk of getting shingles.

- One out of every three people 60 years old or older will get shingles.
- One out of six people older than 60 years who get shingles will have severe pain. The pain can last for months or even years.
- The most common complication of shingles is severe pain where the shingles rash was. This pain can be debilitating. There is no treatment or cure from this pain. As people get older, they are more likely to develop long-term pain as a complication of shingles and the pain is likely to be more severe.
- Shingles may also lead to serious complications involving the eye. Very rarely, shingles can also lead to pneumonia, hearing problems, blindness, brain inflammation (encephalitis), or death.

Protect Yourself Against Shingles ~ Adults 60 years old or older should talk to their healthcare professional about getting a one-time dose of the shingles vaccine.

- The shingles vaccine can reduce your risk of shingles and the long-term pain it can cause.
- Persons who have already had shingles or who have a chronic medical condition can receive the shingles vaccine.
- In a clinical trial involving thousands of adults 60 years old or older, the vaccine reduced the risk of shingles by about half. Even if the shingles vaccine doesn't prevent you from getting shingles, it can still reduce the chance of having long-term pain. Talk with your healthcare professional for more information and to find out if the shingles vaccine is right for you.

What other vaccines do you need? When you get your shingles vaccine is a great time to talk with your healthcare professional about other vaccines you may need.

All adults need:

- Flu vaccine every year to protect against seasonal flu.
- Tdap vaccine to protect against tetanus, diphtheria, and pertussis (whooping cough).
- Pneumococcal vaccines to protect against serious pneumococcal diseases if you are 65 years or older.

There may be other vaccines recommended for you so be sure to talk with your healthcare professional.

Have a happy and safe summer!

July 2017						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2	3 6-8pm Emmeline piano practice	4 Independence Day Office is closed	5 9:30am Meditation Workshop 6-8pm Emmeline piano practice	6 2pm Middlebrook Farms Worship	7 5-11pm Birthday Party	8
9	10 6-8pm Emmeline piano practice	11	12 9:30am Meditation Workshop 11:30-2:30 Kennedy Center – crafts 6-8pm Emmeline piano practice	13 11:30am George's Hill Support Group	14	15 2-3:30pm Overeaters' Anonymous Intergroup
16	17 6-8pm Emmeline piano practice	18	19 9:30am Meditation Workshop 6-8pm Emmeline piano practice	20	21	22
23	24 6-8pm Emmeline piano practice	25	26 9:30am Meditation Workshop 6-8pm Emmeline piano practice	27	28	29
30	31 6-8pm Emmeline piano practice					

HAPPY BIRTHDAY IN JULY!

3	Cathy Parker	13	Kathy Yalof
5	Henry Parker	13	Winnie Wong
7	Will Rondon	14	Katie Schneider
8	Rose Vars	23	Ashlar Pickens
11	Eleanor Csire	26	Laura Buttress



Blessings

On Your

Anniversary



HAPPY ANNIVERSARY IN JULY!

7/12	Dot & Steve Pickens	7/21	Christine & Sean Kirkman
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August 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2 9:30am Meditation Workshop 6-8pm Emmeline piano practice	3 2pm Middlebrook Farms Service	4	5
6	7 6-8pm Emmeline piano practice	8	9 9:30am Meditation Workshop 11:30-2:30 Kennedy Center – crafts 6-8pm Emmeline piano practice	10 11:30am George's Hill Support Group	11	12
13	14 6-8pm Emmeline piano practice	15	16 OUTLOOK DEADLINE 9:30am Meditation Workshop 6-8pm Emmeline piano practice	17	18	19 2-3:30pm Overeaters' Anonymous Intergroup
20	21 6-8pm Emmeline piano practice	22	23 9:30am Meditation Workshop 2pm Cook; 5pm Serve at Golden Hill Community Supper 6-8pm Emmeline piano practice	24	25	26
27	28 6-8pm Emmeline piano practice	29	30 9:30am Meditation Workshop 6-8pm Emmeline piano practice	31		

HAPPY BIRTHDAY IN AUGUST!

2 Gabby Buttress	15 Jeffrey Baez, Jr.	25 Dawn Brezina
3 Ricky Eldridge	18 Russell Bailey	26 Criss Gaetano
4 Richard Foehrenbach	18 Athan Cavaleri	27 Katie Santiago
4 William DeNomme	22 Samantha Buttress	



HAPPY ANNIVERSARY IN AUGUST!

8/6 Anneke & Bert Ruys	8/11 Linda & Frank Polito
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***“No matter who you are
or where you are
on life’s journey,
you are welcome here!”***

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