

The Carillon

Nichols UMC

Volume Number 45, Issue Number 9

October 2022



Connecting with God and People – by Pastor David Piscatelli

NRS Acts 2:46-47 Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts,⁴⁷ praising God and having the goodwill of all the people. And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.

The scripture passage above describes the very first gatherings of believers in the days just after Jesus' death and resurrection. They continued to connect with God and one another. The disciples emulated what they had been taught. Jesus often sat down with them to have a conversation. They did not talk about the weather, sports, or politics; they discussed their understanding of God. Who is God? What does God expect? How does God interact with the world and more? We call the process of seeking to understand God, *theology*. When Jesus left them, the disciples began to share what they knew with anyone and everyone who would listen. They spent time with each other talking, eating, worshipping, and serving God. This was the beginning of the Christian Church – a process that has continued for almost 2,000 years!

Another process that has continued since the beginning of the Christian Church is the celebration of the Lord's Supper. One of the earliest practices of believers was to break bread and drink wine to celebrate the work of Jesus Christ on the cross. While there are many different denominations and religious practices, every Christian congregation celebrates Communion in one form or another. The first Sunday in October is World Communion Sunday, a date churches across the globe gather to connect with God and each other by celebrating communion. It is a reminder that we are not only connected to Jesus Christ, but we are also connected with believers all over the world who seek to be His disciples. Communion doesn't happen in our social circles or the political arena; it happens when Christians gather in remembrance of the life, death, and resurrection of Christ.

Today the church has become less attractive as a place to build community for others. Many people claim to be "spiritual" but have no faith formation groups to help them grow. Our communities have become our clubs, parents on our kids' sports teams, and work colleagues. In a time when we are so busy and conversations are a luxury, these social networks have replaced our church connections. They don't necessarily provide us with the opportunity to have honest faith-based conversations. They don't help us connect with God and others who are seeking to understand who God is and why God wants a relationship with us. Those conversations can only take place among other people of faith. Theology discussions can take place in Bible Studies, over the telephone, via email or online chat rooms, and even in local taverns. All you need is two or more people who want a deeper connection with God.

If your faith is deep and strong, perhaps you can share your journey with someone who is struggling. If your faith is hanging on by a thread (or that thread has already broken), perhaps now is a good time to search out a Christian friend for a conversation. The Bible is not a book of rules; it is a series of conversations by real people who have encountered the Living God, Risen Christ, and Empowering Spirit. If you need a place to start, Nichols UMC has several opportunities to connect with other believers on the next few pages for great faith-based discussions. I pray that by connecting with God and other people during these challenging times, that God will help us find those sources of support and love. ~Grace & peace, *Pastor David*



Spirit Filled Conversation ~ Grapes & Hops

Tuesday, October 11th, 7-8pm-ish

This a new ministry led by Pastor David that will gather once a month to ‘tap’ into different theological topics. It is a great opportunity to gather and meet new people and ask deep questions about the Bible, faith, and life—whether you chose to imbibe or not. This month’s gathering will be held at Little Barn, 901 Bridgeport Ave. Shelton. If you would like more information, please contact Pastor David at pastordavidnumc@snet.net or 203-812-0793.



Sundays 9-9:45am Adult Bible Study – In Person

This study is taught by David Preusch and meets in the Numbers classroom. It will wrap up the book of II Kings and start the Gospel of John in late October. Have you ever stopped and asked yourself just who Jesus is? Why did He appear on earth? And, most importantly, what does that mean for me? The answers to these questions and much more can be found in the Gospel of John and this study will be seeking answers to these

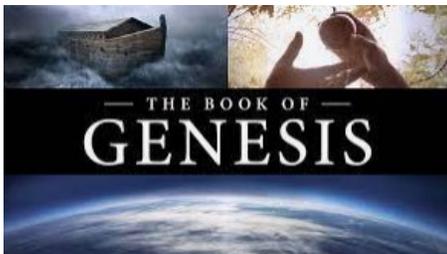
questions. This is an inclusive study that includes the reading of short passages followed by questions about the passage for group discussion. Notes on the history and geography of the time and place provide context. There is no homework required but to bring the bible translation of your choice. If you are new to Bible study and would like a place to start or would like a group setting, the Gospel of John is the place to start!



Peace & Prayer: Mid-Week Time of Devotion - Zoom

Wednesdays 11:30-11:45am - Judy Lang hosts a brief time of devotion and prayer via Zoom. This will be an opportunity to spend about 15 minutes centering ourselves in reflective thought and prayer. The link for this mid-week centering time can be accessed by clicking here: [Peace & Prayer Midweek Time of Devotion](#) OR Dial in: (646)-876-9923, Meeting ID: 366

149 7977, Password: 35#.



Word & Coffee Thursdays, 9-10am - Zoom

Pastor David leads this study on the book Genesis. Come and learn how it all began as we discuss these first stores of God interacting with the created world. Each week we will open in prayer, read the passage, and discuss what we have learned/questioned during our reading and reflection. All are welcome, and you may drop in (via Zoom) any week. If you would like to attend, please email Pastor

David pastordavidnumc@snet.net. NOTE: a recorded video version will also available upon request for those who cannot attend the live session.

**The
Gang
In
Fellowship**

**TGIF (The Gang In Fellowship)
Friday, October 21st 6:30–8:30pm**

Adults (over 18 years), Singles, Couples & Everyone Else In Between!

Please join us for **TGIF**, hosted by Pastor David and Holly and the Evangelism Committee! We'll be playing Family Feud and as always, this promises to be a night of fun, laughs and great fellowship. Childcare and dinner (with a gluten & nut-free option) will be provided—NO COOKING! We will begin with a meal in Fellowship Hall and then the kids will separate from their family and have kid time while the adults remain in Fellowship Hall for their own fun. The cost, which includes childcare, is \$5 per person and \$15 per family. Please RSVP to Holly in person, by phone (203-261-5289), or via email (hmpisky@gmail.com) by Sunday, October 16th.



As part of our TGIF program we will be playing Family Feud. Like the game show, which surveys individuals, we will be surveying our congregation. We would like to have at least 100 people respond. So even if you are unable to attend TGIF please consider helping us out with the survey questions. There is an insert in this edition of the Carillon. Responses will be collected through Sunday, October 9th, and can dropped off in the designated box in the back of sanctuary. If you prefer to complete this survey online, please click here: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/3X6V3YH>.

**Nichols United Methodist Church**
Charge Conference
Sunday, October 16th – 2-4pm
UMC of Westville, 34 Harrison Street, New Haven

Our Charge Conference will be a Church Conference. As in prior years, it will be a combined conference with churches in two Cooperative Parish. We will hear remarks from the District Superintendent and participate in worship. Following, we will seek approval of our ministry leaders and preliminary budget for 2023.

Everyone is welcomed to attend, though only members can vote.



Footsteps in the Sand – Spiritual Retreat
Women’s Weekend – October 28th - 30th ■ Men’s Weekend – November 11th – 13th

You may know some friends at NUMC who have participated in Tres Dias in the past. Our Christian Renewal Weekends are now called “Footsteps in the Sand”, and they were completely revised in 2022 to relate more closely to the world today. The retreat begins on Friday evening and ends on Sunday afternoon. It is conducted by a team of 21 volunteers, including two members of the clergy, coming from a variety of churches and denominations in Fairfield and New Haven counties. The mission is to develop leaders for the local church and to encourage Christian action. The focus is on God’s love for us, our love for God, and our love for our neighbor. I have the honor to be serving as an Auxiliary for Women’s #2. The Women’s #2 Director is Eileen Doyle from Mary Taylor UMC. I encourage you to look at the website <http://footsteps-sand.org> to learn more and/or talk to Bob Virgalla or me about it. I am very excited to extend this invitation to you. Please give it prayerful consideration and visit the website to register. If you need assistance, I’d be happy to help. Blessings ~ Becky Virgalla 203-788-2889 or Bob 203-733-5006.



Fall into Faith October

For the month of October, we will be studying the book of Genesis and what we can do for God. The kids will learn how God wants us to be peacemakers and encouragers. We will also learn how God sometimes surprises us and how we should expect the unexpected from our incredible God. The kids will be reminded how God is always watching us and that God needs us to be helpful and

caring to others by scattering kindness everywhere, especially when no one is watching. And lastly, we will learn all about forgiveness from God. God forgives us as we forgive others. Together we ask God to guide us on our faith journey and to share what we have learned with others. ~Blessings to all! Debbie Redin

Debbie Redin, Education Director ~ 203.375.1129 ~ debtea123@aol.com

NUMC Youth Group

I know life gets crazy in September when activities resume. I hope you have all fallen into a routine and I look forward to getting into a routine at youth group as well. Come when you can and always bring friends. My hope is that the youth develop some lasting friendships with each other, and other believing youth in our area that they can turn to in times of struggles, questioning, and rejoicing.

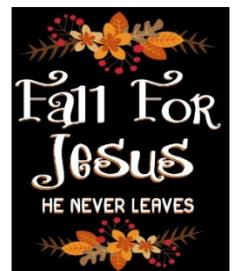
It was great to see everyone at the picnic. There is not much to share on September happenings. I am still trying to figure out the best days and times to meet and what type of events everyone would enjoy. Youth Group will still meet on Sunday evenings from 5-7pm unless we have an outing planned. Once I get a better idea of how many of us there will be on a regular basis, I will ask for families to provide meals. The schedule is as follows and is always subject to change. Please contact me if you have questions or suggestions.

October 2nd - Meet in the NUMC parking lot at 12noon for a hike

October 9th - NUMC 5-7pm

October 16th - NUMC 5-7pm

October 23rd - NUMC 5-7pm



Chrissy Ferrante, Youth Director~203.558.7848~chrissy842001@comcast.net

WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY



World Communion Sunday, October 2nd

Special Mission Opportunities

We can't all support every ministry that comes along, but we certainly can help those projects that are near and dear to our hearts. On select Sundays during the year, we take an offering to help specialized ministries of the United Methodist Church. On World Communion Sunday, what we collect goes to provide scholarships for US ethnic minorities and international students. These students enable people from around the world to learn, serve, and lead in their home churches and communities. We renew our own faith, when we make a difference for students – helping them continue their education growth. Because the people of The United Methodist Church believe that all of God's children have been created and gifted to build the kingdom Jesus ushered in, we're resourcing them to do just that. Because of your giving on World Communion Sunday, the most powerful tool to change the world is in more hands. If you would like to contribute please make checks payable to NUMC and indicate "World Communion" the memo. Thank you for your faithfulness toward this outreach program.

Condolences

Judy McAllister died on August 23rd. A memorial service will be planned, and further details announced.



NUMC Body and Soul Yoga Continues – All Levels Welcome

Tuesdays 7:30–8:45pm in Fellowship Hall

Come and experience the wonder of yoga. Meditate, stretch, and strengthen as Laurie leads you through this hour leaving you rejuvenated, relaxed and stress-free.

Cost - \$12 drop in fee

Please call or email for more information:

Janel Foote 203-521-1714 or ctjanel@gmail.com

Laurie Trupp, Instructor 203-209-9679 laurietrupp@yahoo.com



Volunteers Needed for the Tech Team

We are looking for individuals who are willing to join our Tech Team! What is the Tech Team? It is the people who support the electronic aspects of our worship services including sound, PowerPoint slides, and live streaming. While no experience is necessary, it is important that volunteers are reasonably comfortable with computers. Ideally, Tech Team members would help run the service one to two times per month. Our greatest need is with the 10am service. We would ask that our volunteers arrive at 9:15am and stay until the end of the 10am service. In addition, we are looking for help with the 9am Contemporary Service worship. This service is not live streamed but requires one person to run the slides for our worship songs. If you want more information or are willing to sign up, please contact Holly Piscatelli at hmpisky@gmail.com. We will be happy to train you in this important role.



Consider Becoming a Member of Our Nichols Church Family!
Class 1 – Sunday, October 16th & Class 2 – Sunday, October 23rd – 11:15am in the lounge

On Sunday, October 30th we will be receiving the next group of new members into our Nichols United Methodist Church family. If you would like to become a member, or if you are considering membership and would like to learn more about our church and how NUMC can be part of your personal faith journey, please consider this invitation to our New Member Program. In both meetings, you will hear from current members, discuss opportunities for outreach ministry, fellowship events, Bible studies, music, and youth programs.

Thank you for filling in the form so we can prepare for the group size. Please place it in the offering plate, give it to an usher, or mail it to Nichols UMC, 35 Shelton Rd, Trumbull, CT 06611, You may also email it at nicholsmethodist@snet.net. Any questions please speak to Pastor David or call the church office at 203-375-5817.

Yes, I am interested in participating in the New Members Program at NUMC.

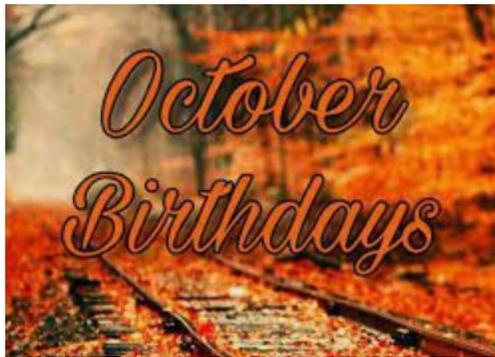
Name(s): _____

Address: _____

Phone Number _____ E-Mail _____

Child Care Needed? October 17th – Yes ___ No ___ / October 24th – Yes ___ No ___

Age(s) of Child/Children _____



October 1 Charlotte Erenberg
October 1 Jeffrey McGregor
October 1 Cole Smith
October 2 Cassie Healey
October 3 Geoffrey Coffin
October 3 Gunnar Hansen
October 3 John C. Overhiser
October 3 Jeffrey Poarch
October 4 Louise Kim
October 4 Cheryl Ponzeka
October 5 Steven Gargiulo
October 5 Wesley Maltas
October 5 Michelle Pedersen
October 7 Madeline Erenberg
October 7 Walter Hoyt
October 7 Stefanie Rakoczy
October 7 Steven Sanford
October 8 Steve Luebbert
October 8 Andrew MacDonald
October 9 Robert G. Dunbar
October 9 Christine Hansen
October 9 Lily Reed
October 11 Andrew Mecca
October 12 Max DeFilippo
October 12 Suzette Sicsico
October 14 Olivia Kingston
October 14 Jackie Lover
October 14 Matthew Seuch
October 14 Susan Storck

October 15 Sara Astin
October 15 Sarah Stinchcomb
October 16 Jane Hall
October 16 Bill Mecca
October 17 Mace Koury
October 18 Kelley Satrazemis
October 20 Howard W. Blewett
October 20 Karen Bruening
October 20 Dennis Hrbek III
October 22 Jake Hoggatt
October 23 Barbara Lucas
October 24 Chris Collison
October 25 Ashley Steigler
October 26 Jacqueline F. Bianco
October 26 Mary A. Dunbar
October 26 Chris Ferrante
October 26 Kelly Keane
October 26 Michael Pogany
October 27 Nathan MacDonald
October 27 Emilie Schadlich
October 27 Heidi L. Thoma
October 28 Michael DiVasto
October 29 Joy Barton
October 29 Nathan DiPinto
October 29 Heather K. Redin
October 30 Jarett Dery
October 31 Samuel Kim
October 31 Christie McKenzie
October 31 Linda A. Roberts

October 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednes...	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																																																
Every Sunday 8 AM Worship w/ communion 9 AM Contemporary Service 9 AM Bible Study 10 AM Worship w/ nursery care and church school 11 AM Coffee Hour	26	MDO 2 - 9:30-1:45 Tue, - Fri MDO 3 9:15-1:45 Tue & Fri	27	28	29	30																																																																																																																
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Submit articles through
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Deadline for the November 2022 issue is October 12th

The Carillon is published monthly except during July by the Nichols United Methodist Church, 35 Shelton Road, Trumbull, CT 06611. Send address changes to; The Carillon, 35 Shelton Road, Trumbull, CT 06611. Submissions should be emailed to NUMCCarillon@yahoo.com and will be confirmed by the editor.



NUWF will not be having a meeting or luncheon in October due to the Fall Fair.

We did however want to share our Mission Statement:
United Women in Faith seeks to connect and nurture women through Christian spiritual formation, leadership development, creative fellowship, and education so that

they can inspire, influence and impact local and global communities.