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# West Hartford United Methodist Church Happenings

Volume 58 Issue 8

June 2015



I see my physician Dr. Jack Schmetterling twice a year. Jack is an excellent doctor who vigilantly and faithfully holds me accountable to caring for the body God has given me. As a faithful Jewish man, Jack knows it is important to honor God with our bodies. After reviewing my blood work results, Jack looked at me and asked (in regards to my cholesterol medicine), “Are you taking the stuff?” “Yes!” I exclaimed. “Well than what’s going on. You don’t weigh any more. And you cannot possibly exercise more than you already do. So you must have changed your eating habits.” “I haven’t changed anything!” Jack looked me in the eyes and said with a paternal tone, “Look within yourself, Ric.”

Jesus spent His three years as a Rabbi calling people to look within themselves. Time and again Jesus tells us that what is on the inside matters more than what’s on the outside, and that our appearance can look wonderful but our insides can be less than beautiful.

Physically I look like I have got it together. But on the inside of my body, my blood system does not look so nice. Looks can be deceiving! Our outward physical appearance is not necessarily a reflection of our internal physical reality. Likewise our outward spiritual appearance is not necessarily indicative of our inward spiritual reality. We can look like we’ve got it together, we can look like life is going great for us, we can look like we are living the good life, when in reality we are struggling, failing, and falling.

This is why John Wesley the founder of the Methodist Church asks his people time and again, “How is it with your soul?” How is it with your soul? Honestly. Whatever is going on inside of you, please bring it to Jesus. He wants you to share with Him how you are really doing. And bring it to me your pastor, or someone else you trust. Together we will work to bring Jesus’ healing grace to those places within that need to be made well.

Sincerely,  
Pastor Ric

## Prayer List

Please Pray For

- The June 2015 Session of Annual Conference meeting 11-13 June
- Bishop Jane Allen Middleton
- President Obama
- Vice President Joe Biden as he mourns the death of his oldest son.
- District Superintendent Ken Kieffer
- The family of Joseph Carlin (Laura Carlin)
- The family of Ray Johns (Mary Quinn and her family)
- Vince, Danielle and Alex Dube as they more the death of Vince's mother-in-law
- Anita Ellsworth – recovering at The Reservoir
- Betty Anderson who is at River Ridge in Avon
- Those within Hartford who are victims of gun violence
- People suffering from the flooding in Texas and Oklahoma
- The girls held captive by Bokko Haram
- The war-torn lands of Syria, Iraq and Afghanistan
- Those families who have lost loved ones to beheadings at the hands of ISIS

## Memorial

**In memory of Ann Bell** – Jim & Gini Armstrong, Frank & Nancy Salamon, Scott & Karen Powers, Shirley Wuelfing, Fred & Linda Wohlgemuth, Rose Morey, Anita Ellsworth, Karen Ellsworth, Doris Shuskus, Ken Shuskus, Nancy & Al Janusauskas

## Walk Against Hunger a Success

On May 3, 2015, 15 people from West Harford United Methodist Church walked in the Walk Against Hunger in Hartford benefitting the Friendship Service Center of New Britain where I am appointed. Working together, the walkers and the church member supporters raised \$4,820. We met and busted right through our goal of \$3,000. That means that about 130 people were fed for a month or about 11 fed for a full year! That's outstanding! I thank God that I am blessed to be a part of such a supportive church family. Together, we make a difference! - Rev. B. Suzy Rivera



Children's Sunday and Combined Service  
10 a.m. on June 14<sup>th</sup>  
Cookout lunch will follow

## Save The Date: Church Grounds Work Day



### Church Grounds Work Day – Saturday 13 June from 9 to 11AM

Did you know that our 4.2 acres of church grounds are all maintained by volunteers? Would you be willing to help? We are going to have church grounds work days on the second Saturday of the month throughout the summer, and our next work day is scheduled for **Saturday June 13<sup>th</sup>**. We will work on whatever is needed to be done – weeding, pruning, weed whacking, raking, etc. Whether you can contribute 30 minutes or 2 hours, please come anytime. All help is welcome!

Please contact April Parsons at [acparsons111@comcast.net](mailto:acparsons111@comcast.net) if you are able to help.



Please be praying for Kumar Ponnudurai and Peter Suter as they participate in the U.M. Army College Camp Mission Trip to Elliot, Maine, May 31 - June 6. Our second group of youth and adults (Serf Piedrasanta, Onyx Sanchez, Ethan Speranza, Andrew Suter, Jen Bush, and Karen Loveland) will be going to Scranton, Pennsylvania, July 12-18.

Participants sleep, eat, worship and enjoy fellowship at a local Methodist church. Each weekday they set out to a worksite in the local area. They spend the week working together to meet home repair and maintenance needs for those unable to pay for or to physically do the work for themselves. Younger teams complete a variety of projects including yard work, painting, window and door repair. The college camps will be working on the more technical projects such as porches and construction of handicap access ramps. Support teams bring needed tools, supplies, technical expertise and safety checks to the site each day.

UMArmy believes the relationship with those being served is the top priority and central to their work. The clients are referred by local social service agencies and churches. Generally they are elderly, but some are families who are unable to do the work for themselves due to financial concerns or disabilities. The teams bring a lunch to share with their client each day and are encouraged to interact as much as possible. Often the idea that someone cares is as important as the actual work! See: <http://ne.umarmy.org/> for details on the program.

## Christian Education News

### **Vacation Bible School**

VBS camp is the week of July 6-10, 2015 running from 9 am until noon. This year the theme will be “**Everest: Conquering Challenges with God’s Great Power**”. **I am still looking for volunteers so please consider joining our team to help make our camp successful!!**

**Jam**

**Children’s Sunday, June 14<sup>th</sup>:** Combined 10:00 Service with Lunch to follow!

**Nursery School-** I am pleased to announce that our Nursery School is almost at 100% enrollment for next year. The dedication and talent of my faculty and volunteers makes the WHMNS community an amazing place for children to learn and grow.

Please contact me with any questions, suggestions or concerns at [whmns@snet.net](mailto:whmns@snet.net) or 860.521.8063. I always welcome your thoughts and your interest in becoming a volunteer for Jam, VBS, or at our Nursery School.

Sincerely,  
Tracey Cappellucci, Director of Christian Education



### **Time to clean out that spare room or basement?**

Rummage sale donations of small furniture items in good condition are accepted all year long.

Please contact:

Nancy Janusauskas (860) 521-1166

Doris Shuskus (860) 561-2752

Please do not bring these items that are difficult to sell: exercise equipment, old computers, text books/ encyclopedias, heavy furniture, stereo equipment, skis, cribs, or baby car seats.

## Harvest Fair Notes

While enjoying your upcoming summer activities, please keep our annual Harvest Fair in mind, scheduled for Saturday, October 24th, 9:00AM-2:00PM. Summer is a very busy time for craft workshops. We meet every Tuesday morning from 9:30AM-1:00PM, and the 2nd, 4th, and 5th Monday evenings 4:00PM-7:00PM in the air-conditioned John Wesley room. If you're looking for an enjoyable and productive way to help our church while enjoying crafts, conversation, and making new friends, give one of these small groups a try! If you prefer to work at home (or at your summer getaway), we have projects that you can do on your own. Materials and patterns will be provided, just ask!

WE HAVE AN URGENT NEED FOR SEWERS! We have received a very generous donation of flannel and fleece and need several people who can sew. This is an easy pattern, and we can have it cut out with a copy of the directions for you. If you're willing to assemble one or more units PLEASE join us for a workshop or contact me.

We still have several Silent Auctions available for purchase. If you're interested in a spray tan at After Glow in Avon; a Mon. - Thurs. after 5PM pass for two in June, July (except July 4th.), or August at Quassy in Middlebury; two weeks of adult or child lessons at Vallari's in West Hartford; or a \$100.00 gift certificate for All In Its Place organizing service, please contact me.

We have a need for a few white birch logs. If you have 1 or 2 nice looking ones suitable for decorative use that you're willing to donate please leave them in the John Wesley room. There is also an ongoing need for clear bags from the dry cleaner or laundry, containers with lids from wet Swiffer cloths, clean large clear bakery containers without holes, and "glitzy" buttons - gold, silver, brass, copper, pearl, rhinestone (or other stones), velvet, or any other type of "bling." Please leave them in the John Wesley room marked FAIR.

Please keep an eye out for items for the White Elephant booth while cleaning out the attic, basement, or browsing flea markets and tag sales. If you make jellies, pickles, etc. please make a few extras for the Deli. We also need items for the Silent Auction. If you have suggestions please provide us with as much information as possible, the name and address of the business and name of the owner or manager, if available. Give the information to Karen Loveland in the church office; Larry Wilder; or grab me at coffee hour, call or email me, or leave the info on the secretary's desk or my mail box in the church office.

In Christ's Service,  
Joy Ferguson, Harvest Fair Chairperson  
[grammy2drewski@yahoo.com](mailto:grammy2drewski@yahoo.com)  
[860 523-8017](tel:8605238017)



## 2015 Save the Dates!

Date	Event	Notes	Contact
<b>9/12/2015 (Sat.)</b> 9:00am – 10:00am	<b>UMW Meeting</b>	Meet in the Fellowship Hall	Nancy Janusauskas
<b>9/24/2014 (Thu.)</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Pumpkin Unloading</b>	Serve dinner for helpers	Nancy Janusauskas
<b>10/8/2014 (Thu.)</b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Pumpkin Unloading</b>	Serve dinner for helpers	Nancy Janusauskas
<b>10/24/2015 (Sat.)</b> 9:00am – 2:00pm	<b>Harvest Fair</b>	Set-up starts on Tue 10/20. Tue 10/20 – Thu 10/22 anytime you can help ,and Friday 9:00 am	Joy Fergusson
<b>10/30/2015 (Fri.) 7-9pm</b> <b>10/31/2015 (Sat.) 8-1pm</b>	<b>Rummage Sale</b>	Set-up starts on Sun 10/25	Doris Shuskus
<b>11/29/2015 (Sun.)</b> 4:00pm – 6:00pm	<b>Tree Lighting and Carol Sing Dinner</b>	More info to Follow	April Parsons
<b>12/5/2015 (Sat.)</b> 12:00pm – 3:00pm	<b>Holiday Luncheon</b>	More info to Follow	Nancy Janusauskas
<b>12/6/2015 (Sun.)</b>	<b>Christmas Tea</b>	More info to Follow	Judy Morris

### UMW Officers 2014-2015

Nancy Janusauskas, President &  
Financial Secretary  
April Parsons, Vice President  
Mary Suter, Treasurer  
Cheryl Sansone, Secretary

### UMW Contact Info:

April Parsons 860 778-3528  
Doris Shuskus 860 561-2752  
Joy Fergusson 860 523-8017  
[grammy2drewski@yahoo.com](mailto:grammy2drewski@yahoo.com)  
Judy Morris 860 747-6228  
Karen Powers 860 665-0786  
Nancy Janusauskas 860 521-1166

[acparsons111@comcast.net](mailto:acparsons111@comcast.net)

[bjemorris@comcast.net](mailto:bjemorris@comcast.net)

[nancyjay@comcast.net](mailto:nancyjay@comcast.net)

## THANK YOU

I cannot thank all of you enough for the prayers, cards, well wishes, and loving support I received during my recent back surgeries. In the most difficult moments while in the hospital (and there were many), you were right there offering support. I feel truly blessed to be a part of this wonderful church family. Thank you again.

Mary Larson

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My Dearest Friends and Family,

On May 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2015 a team of us from the Friendship Center participated in the *Foodshare Walk Against Hunger*. There are 137,480 people, including 42,830 children, in need of emergency food assistance in the Greater Hartford region. Foodshare is working to address this issue by engaging the community at-large and building a movement focused on decreasing the need of our hungry neighbors. The *Foodshare Walk Against Hunger* is one key way in which we, as a community, can raise awareness of hunger that affects, many times unknowingly, our very own neighbors.

Often times we take for granted that glass of milk we reach into our refrigerators to give to our children each morning or that dinner that we pull out of the oven each evening...Not thinking that our very own neighbors may be skipping a meal due to unfortunate circumstances. With your generous donation that you made to this charity, you have helped to make it possible to provide food to these hungry families.

We wanted to personally thank you for supporting this, for your contribution to helping these people in need of something as basic as food. You have helped to raise over \$1,700 that we were able to turn into Foodshare! **YOU MADE A DIFFERENCE!** Thank you again for caring, for donating and helping to feed a hungry family.

God Bless,  
Nancy Janusauskas & Olivia Rose

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Please give my thanks to your Women's Ministry for making the adorable pillows for the Necessities Bag. I was recently diagnosed with breast cancer and was given a Bag following surgery at W. W. Backus hospital in Norwich, CT. I used the pillows right away and have continued using them at home and in the car.

We attend Calvary Chapel in Uncasville, where I am involved with a quilt/sewing group called Upper Room Quilters. We have provided hundreds of items to people in need, so I can truly appreciate the money, time and labor that goes into making things for others. Your kindness and generosity is very much appreciated. Please pass this along to all who made the Pillows. I would also appreciate your prayers as I prepare for chemo and other treatments.

Many thanks,  
Laurene Shewan



## June Birthdays

June 1	Joseph Carlin, Jackie Quinn	June 11	Andrew Michelson
June 2	Neville Bowers	June 12	Joy Ferguson
June 4	Andrew Suter	June 13	Eric Loveland, Karen Powers
June 5	Andrea Fairchild	June 15	Gary Roy
June 6	Preston Hazzard	June 16	Christopher Dawiczuk
June 7	John Savonis	June 17	Rowena Styron
June 8	Cliff Anderson	June 24	Shirley Wuelfing
June 9	Bruce Bauer, Samantha Haubrich, Anastasia Haubrich, Aundra Hirschthal	June 28	Mary Suter
June 10	Sara Petersen	June 29	Sam Darko, Oliver Casey
		June 30	Bill Weber



## June Anniversaries

June 1	Sandy & Ted Fravel
June 2	Mary & Jim Quinn
June 5	Karen & Ken Loveland
June 12	Nancy & Al Janusauskas
June 13	Robyn & Jeff Weiss
June 14	Gelaine & Bruce Bauer
June 21	Marge & Mark Gifford
June 27	Mary & Paul Suter
June 30	Cheryl & Nild Sansone

Please contact Karen Loveland at 860-521-7766  
or [whumc1959@sbcglobal.net](mailto:whumc1959@sbcglobal.net) to have your birthday or anniversary added.