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West Hartford United Methodist Church Happenings

Volume 58 Issue 11

October 2015



On 15 July 1997 I took my first paycheck from West Hartford United Methodist Church to Webster Bank. Looking at the check, the teller asked, "Where is your church?" "Diagonally across from Wolcott Park, and just up the road from Corbins Corner and Westfarms Mall." "Oh, you're the pumpkin church!" she enthusiastically declared. "Yes!"

By name we are "West Hartford United Methodist Church." By reputation we are "The Pumpkin Church." Each October we spend a month enjoying the company of the people of Greater Hartford as they purchase pumpkins from us. Each year for over twenty years we tell the story of how all of the proceeds from the Patch are used for missions ministries that serve the people of Appalachia, upper New England, Haiti, Hartford (through South Park Inn), New Britain (through the Friendship Service Center) and others places throughout the country and throughout the world. Each year we celebrate that all of the money raised is used for people that do life beyond the walls of West Hartford Church. Each year, returning customers tell us how important it is to participate in our ministries through their pumpkin purchases. And each year we get to tell the story to first time customers.

What a wonderful opportunity God gives us each October to tell the great, great story of Jesus and His love! Praise be to God that we are the Pumpkin Church!

Affectionately,
Pastor Ric

Prayer List

Please Be Praying For

- Healing for 22 year old Shannon Davis's legs.
- Lynda Anderson – healing of her heart ailments, and a treatment plan that will heal her.
- Karen Ellsworth as she mourns the death of her beloved dog Chester.
- Cole Robert and Oliver James Pocklington, born prematurely on 10 September. Both weighed in at 4 pounds, 8 ounces. Please also pray for their mom, Amy Kimble.
- Syrian Refugees.
- Ukrainian Refugees.
- Those suffering from and combatting the wildfires out West.
- Bishop Middleton
- District Superintendent Ken Kieffer

The Pumpkins are Here!



The second load of pumpkins is scheduled to arrive **Thursday, October 8th at 4:30 pm**. The majority of Scouts are unavailable to help, so it is up to our church family to distribute this load. It's a fun way to get your exercise for the day and you can enjoy dinner provided by the UMW after the unloading. Please contact Kim White at kimpeterwhite@gmail.com if you have a pick-up truck we can use for the unloading.

Could you spare a couple of hours to enjoy a crisp, autumn day in a field full of pumpkins? Sign up to work a shift on the board in the narthex or online at <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0d45aaaf2da57-pumpkin1> If you can only work part of a shift, that is fine too. Indicate in the comment section online or on the sign up board the hours you can work. Act fast before all the good shifts are gone!

Everyone can help with our Annual Harvest Fair!

Please take a **yard sign** to decorate your yard. Our fair is only a few short weeks away and your help is needed. Local advertising is the best way to get the word out about our big day. There are **Flyers** available in the church narthex for you to post at your favorite stores and places of business. For more information call the church office at 860-561-7766.



A Message from the Kids in the Church

Hey West Hartford Church, we kids need your help! Almost every Sunday we are forced to endure our parents teaching JAM. We spend the entire week with these boring grown-ups, please don't make us spend Sunday morning with them too! Nine out of ten kids agree, parents don't know anything. (As for that other kid, he's being voted off the island.) There is no way we could learn anything from our *parents*.

Teaching JAM is easy peasy lemon squeezy. Mrs. Cappellucci has everything set out and ready, down to the markers and photocopies. And as for us, we're just a bunch of precious little angels. Act now while supplies last!

Would you be willing to teach JAM one Sunday and give us a break from our parents? If so, contact Mrs. Cappellucci. We would really appreciate it!

Thanks,
The kids of the church

Save The Date: Church Grounds Work Day



Church Grounds Work Day – Saturday October 17th 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? Our next work day is scheduled for **Saturday October 17th**. 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 if you are able to help.



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.



U.M. ARMY 2016



The church support through prayers, prayer bags, supplies, and the pumpkin patch made it possible to send two groups on U.M. Army mission trips in 2015 - Kumar Ponnudurai, Peter Suter, Serf Piedrasanta, Onyx Sanchez, Ethan Speranza, Andrew Suter, Jen Bush & Karen Loveland participated. We will be planning another mission trip with U.M. Army next summer which will be open to all youth who have completed seventh grade.

Any youth or adults planning on attending next year's mission trips should plan on "working" 20 hours in the pumpkin patch this October. Sign in sheets will be in the cash box for U.M. Army participants to record their hours.

Mark your calendar for the next pumpkin deliveries on October 8 at 4:30! See: <http://ne.umarmy.org/> for details on the program or email mary.suter@att.net with questions



FLU CLINIC

Sunday, October 18th, 2015, 7:30 – 8:30 am and 10am – 12:30 pm

Yes, it's that time again! On **Sunday, 18 October**, we'll be holding our 15th Annual Flu Vaccine Clinic. Insurances accepted: Aetna, Aetna Medicare Advantage, Anthem Blue Cross Blue Shield (EXCEPT Blue Care Family Plan), Anthem Medicare Advantage, ConnectiCare, ConnectiCare Medicare Advantage, and Medicare Part B **Please bring your insurance card with you.** If you do not have one of the above insurances, the cost is \$30 (cash or check). Feel free to contact me with any questions. **Wear short or loose sleeves!**

Peace and health in Christ,
Karen Loveland, 860-561-3675 or karen@karenandken.com

What are the Benefits of Flu Vaccination?

How can I protect myself against flu?

Yearly flu vaccination is the best tool currently available to protect against influenza (flu).

While how well the flu vaccine works can vary, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommends a yearly flu vaccination as the first and most important step in protecting against flu and its potentially serious complications. Millions of people have safely received flu vaccines for decades. Flu vaccination can reduce flu illnesses, doctors' visits, and missed work and school due to flu, as well as prevent flu-related hospitalizations.

Recent studies* by CDC researchers and other experts indicate that flu vaccine reduces the risk of doctor visits due to flu by approximately 60% among the overall population when the vaccine viruses are like the ones spreading in the community.

A flu vaccination does not guarantee protection against the flu. Some people who get vaccinated might still get sick. However, people who get a flu vaccine are less likely to get sick with flu than someone who does not get vaccinated.

Why should I get the flu vaccine?

There are lots of reasons to get a flu vaccine each year.

- Flu vaccination can keep you from getting sick from flu. Protecting yourself from flu also protects the people around you who are more vulnerable to serious flu illness.
- Flu vaccination can help protect people who are at greater risk of getting seriously ill from flu, like older adults, people with chronic health conditions and young children (especially infants younger than 6 months old who are too young to get vaccinated).
- Flu vaccination also may make your illness milder if you do get sick (Belshe, 1998).
- Flu vaccination can reduce the risk of more serious flu outcomes, like hospitalizations and deaths.
- A recent study showed that flu vaccine reduced children's risk of flu-related pediatric intensive care unit (PICU) admission by 74% during flu seasons from 2010-2012 (Ferdinands, 2014).
- One study showed that flu vaccination was associated with a 71% reduction in flu-related hospitalizations among adults of all ages and a 77% reduction among adults 50 years of age and older during the 2011-2012 flu season (Talbot, 2013).
- Flu vaccination is an important preventive tool for people with chronic health conditions. Vaccination was associated with lower rates of some cardiac events among people with heart disease (Ciszewski, 2008; Phrommintikul, 2011), especially among those who had had a cardiac event in the past year (Udell, 2013). Flu vaccination also has been shown to be associated with reduced hospitalizations among people with diabetes (79%; Colquhoun, 1997) and chronic lung disease (52%; Nichol, 1999).
- Vaccination helps protect women during pregnancy and their babies for up to 6 months after they are born. One study showed that giving flu vaccine to pregnant women was 92% effective in preventing hospitalization of infants for flu (Benowitz, 2010).
- Other studies have shown that vaccination can reduce the risk of flu-related hospitalizations in older adults. A study that looked at flu vaccine effectiveness over the course of three flu seasons estimated that flu vaccination lowered the risk of hospitalizations by 61% in people 50 years of age and older (Talbot, 2011).

*A list of references for the research studies mentioned above is available on the CDC website <http://www.cdc.gov/flu/about/qa/benefit-publications.htm>.

How well do flu vaccines work?

The benefits of flu vaccination can vary. The most important factors that affect how well the flu vaccine works include:

- The “match” between the flu vaccine and the flu viruses that are spreading that season; and
- Factors such as the age and overall health of the person being vaccinated. For example, older people with weaker immune systems may respond less well to vaccination.

Experts are working to create flu vaccines that work better, but existing flu vaccines still offer important health benefits to the community.

For more information, visit www.cdc.gov/flu or call 800-CDC-INFO.

IT'S NOT TOO LATE! **Advertising Opportunity for** **Business Owners & Service Providers**

The Harvest Fair program is an economical way to advertise your business or service and support your church at the same time. Individuals attending the event, as well as church family members will become potential customers. Whether your business is large or small, please consider purchasing advertisement space.

Sizes and Prices

Business card (approx. 2" x 3 ½")	\$15.00
¼ page (approx. 4" x 5" or 5" x 4")	\$24.00
½ page (approx. 5" x 8" or 4" x 10")	\$43.00
Full page (approx. 8" x 10")	\$80.00

If you are interested, submit your camera ready copy along with your payment made payable to WHUMC to the church office, by Monday, October 5th. If you have any questions, please contact me.

Blessings,

Edyie Steimer
Harvest Fair advertisement Chairman
johnandedyie@cox.net 860-665-7981

Harvest Fair

Saturday, October 24, 2015

9am- 2pm

West Hartford United Methodist Church
1358 New Britain Avenue

(just east of West Farms Mall – look for the pumpkins)

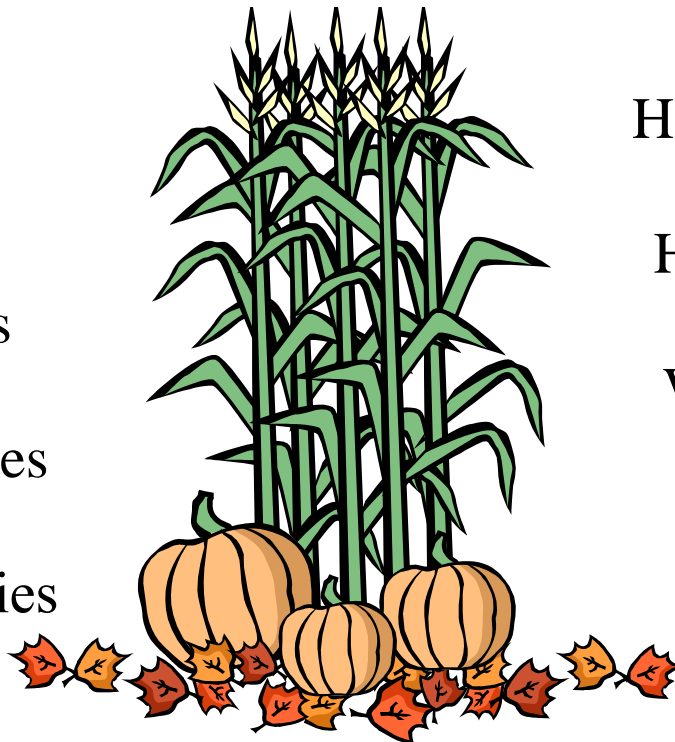
Handmade
Arts & Crafts

Collectibles

Craft Supplies

Kid's Activities

Bakery



Homemade Foods

Half-Price Plaza

White Elephant

Silent Auction

Door Prizes

860-521-7766

Admission is FREE!

A Delicious Lunch Will Be Served In The Son Room

Harvest Fair Notes

It's October, and in a few short weeks we'll be enjoying fun and fellowship at our Annual Harvest Fair, October 24, 9:00AM-2:00PM. We have an amazing array of beautifully handmade crafts, you may have noticed how we've simply overflowed our storage area into the John Wesley room! New items from our talented sewers include beautiful quilted handbags, cozy blankets, and quillows. We have adjustable insulated casserole carriers that will fit 8X8 - 9X13 dishes. Come see our new flannel sleepwear and lounge pants for the entire family!

The Harvest Fair is the largest fundraiser for our UMW and helps support our missions programs and ministries all year long. There is always plenty to do in the days leading up to the fair, the fair itself, and the clean-up. We need the support of every church member to make this a successful event. Please lend a hand, don't wait to be asked, VOLUNTEER! You'll have a great time and it will make you come alive!

We need volunteers to "Host & Post." If you live on a well-traveled road please consider being a "host" to a lawn sign or two. The signs are available in the narthex and fellowship hall, and may be returned the day after the fair. As you run errands around town would you please hang a few posters up to advertise the fair? Pre-printed posters are available in the narthex and Fellowship Hall. Local places like grocery stores, gas stations, banks, libraries, senior centers, post offices, salons, gyms, dance, gymnastic and martial arts studios, break room at work, day care centers, condo bulletin boards, ice rinks, etc. are great places to hang posters.

We are well-known for our delicious foods that we offer in our Deli, Bakery, and Snack Shack. Please whip up a batch or two of your mouthwatering specialties! Nut breads, bars, cookies, snack treats, candies, baked beans, spaghetti sauce, fudge, jams and jellies always sell out quickly. The Snack Shack always does a brisk business serving a delicious lunch that can't be beat, and our guests love their awesome chili dogs!

The Silent Auction has received a number of tickets, passes, and gift cards to date. Be sure to stop by the booth to bid on your favorites including Corner Pug, Effie's Place, Quassy Amusement Park, Bertucci's, The Children's Museum, Wadsworth Atheneum, Lyman Orchards, West Hartford YMCA, Playhouse on Park, Jorgensen Center for the Performing Arts, Essex Steam Train & Riverboat, Moscarillo's Garden Shop, Simsbury Therapeutic Massage & Wellness, Kid City Museum, Dakota Steakhouse of Rocky Hill, Southwick Zoo, Mark Twain House & Museum, Metro Bis Restaurant, Connecticut Beardsley Zoo, New England Air Museum, Lutz Museum, Hartford Symphony Orchestra, Berlin Batting Cages, East Side Restaurant, The Garden Barn, Farmington Miniature Golf & Ice Cream, Hill-Stead Museum, New Britain Museum of American Art, Seven Angels Theatre, Shoreline Trolley Museum, Salem Witch Museum, Old Sturbridge Village, Winding Trails, Warner Theatre, Ski Sundown, Froyo World of New Britain, New York Giants, Connecticut Trolley Museum, Connecticut Historical Society, and to support WHMNS Roaring Brook Nature Center, Santa's Village of Jefferson N.H., Mohawk Mountain, and Storyland in Glen N.H., It's not too late to make a donation to this booth, but to be included in the program we need to receive the donation by Oct. 12th. Contact Larry Wilder, Joy Ferguson, or Karen Loveland during office hours.

MOST IMPORTANT - Come to the fair, bring the family, friends, neighbors, and co-workers. Enjoy all that we have to offer - beautiful handmade crafts, delicious foods, activities for the kids, spirited bidding in the auction booth, and the UMArmy pumpkins on the front lawn. There is something for everyone. Come and enjoy this very special event, held just once a year, with your church family.

In Christ's Service,
Joy Ferguson, Harvest Fair Chairperson
grammy2drewski@yahoo.com
860 523-8017

Thanksgiving Basket Grocery Shopping List

(for family of 2-6 people)

One can each of:

- Corn
- Green beans or collard greens
- Yams or sweet potatoes
- Cranberry sauce
- Fruit
- Chicken broth
- Turkey gravy
- Pie filling (*apple, pumpkin, cherry, etc.*)
- Juice (*large size can of cranberry, grape, etc.*)

Plus:

- Box of macaroni or boxed macaroni and cheese
- Small bag of potatoes (*5-lb.*)
- Package of rice
- Package of cornbread mix
- (2) Packages of stuffing (*6 oz. each*)
- Package of rolls
- Box of tea bags (*small*)
- Graham cracker pie crust
- Can of coffee (*small*)
- Seasonings: (e.g., salt, black pepper, garlic powder, onion powder, sazón)
- Pasta sauce (traditional flavor)
- Can of kidney beans or pigeon peas
- Soups (all varieties, but especially cream of chicken and mushroom)
- Snack foods (*cookies, cakes, crackers, chips*)
- \$25 grocery gift card** for meat and other perishables

(*suggested: Price Rite, C-Town, Stop & Shop, Save-A-Lot, Aldi's Supermarket*)

IMPORTANT!

There is NO refrigeration available for us to keep perishable items. Please do not add items that could spoil like meat, eggs, milk, pie shells, etc. Check all items for usable expiration dates.

Please provide your own basket. Families love receiving their food in laundry baskets or plastic storage bins that can be repurposed. Make the basket as plain or fancy as you like. If wrapping the basket in cellophane, please bring in the gift card separately.

Baskets may be dropped off **Monday, November 23, 2015, 3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.**, at **St. Mark's Episcopal Church**, 147 West Main Street, New Britain, CT 06052, Phone: 860-225-7634, website www.stmarksnewbritain.org.

Questions? Contact:

Barbara Lazarski at the Friendship Service Center

Phone: 860-225-0211, x202

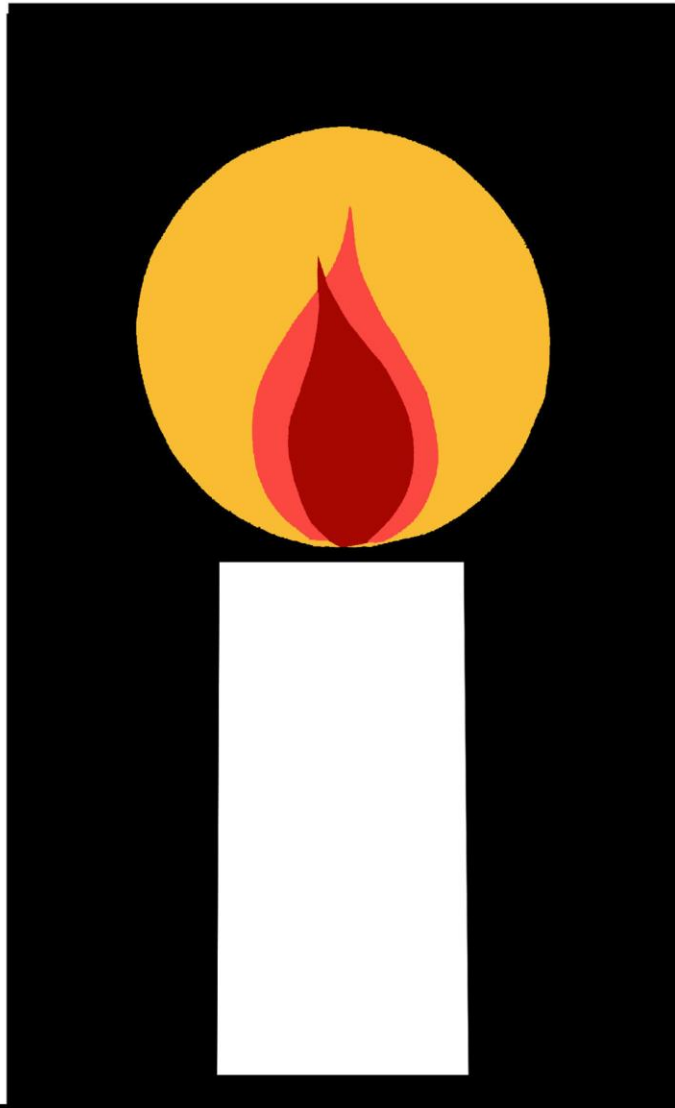
Email: blazarski@friendshippervicecenter.org

Have a Happy Thanksgiving!
And, thank you for being a blessing to others.

*Be the
Light
On The
Longest
Night*

Help Raise Awareness of Homelessness

December 22, 2015



**Buy Your Luminary
And Support The Efforts
Of The Friends Of The
Friendship Service Center
Of New Britain**



**To Assist The
Homeless And
Needy Among Us.**

(\$5.00 per Luminary)

To place an order or for further information:

Orders are due by December 6th

Nancy Janusauskus:

860-604-3857 or nancyjay@comcast.net

Karen Loveland, Director of Administration:

860-521-7766 or whumc1959@sbcglobal.net

Rev. B. Suzy Rivera:

860-965-2531 or srivera@friendshipservicecenter.org

Website:

<http://friendshipservicecenter.org/friends/>

Email: friends@friendshipservicecenter.org



West Hartford United Methodist Women News!



On Friday August 14th; April Parsons, Nancy Janusauskas & Doris Shuskus attended a Ribbon Cutting ceremony at South Park Inn. This ceremony was a celebration of the work that was involved in funding and creating a Bright Space at South Park Inn. \$10,000 was raised for this project, of which the West Hartford UMW made a \$500 contribution, April's company (HAI Group) contributed \$4,500, and the Bright Horizons Foundation kicked in the remaining \$5,000.

A Bright Space is a warm, safe, enriching place developed in homeless shelters for children and youth experiencing homelessness or other crisis by the Bright Horizons Foundation.

On Saturday September 12th, the annual meeting of the UMW was held. There were 9 ladies in attendance and the time was spent reviewing/organizing the remaining UMW activities for 2015.

On Thursday September 17th, the UMW catered a luncheon for the West Hartford Belles. There were 42 guests in attendance and there were 5 UMW ladies who served a wonderful Chicken Divan lunch.

2015 Save the Dates!

Date	Event	Notes	Contact
10/4/2015 (Sun.) 4-7 pm	Heritage Slide Show	Chicken dinner	April Parsons
10/8/2015 (Thu.)	2 nd Pumpkin Unloading	Serve dinner for helpers	Nancy Janusauskas
10/24/2015 (Sat.) 9:00am – 2:00pm	Harvest Fair	Set-up starts on Tue 10/20. Tue 10/20 – Thu 10/22 anytime you can help ,and Friday 9:00 am	Joy Fergusson
10/30/2015 (Fri.) 7-9pm 10/31/2015 (Sat.) 8-1pm	Rummage Sale	Set-up starts on Sun 10/25	Doris Shuskus
11/29/2015 (Sun.) 4:00pm – 6:00pm	Tree Lighting and Carol Sing Dinner	More info to Follow	April Parsons
12/5/2015 (Sat.) 12:00pm – 3:00pm	Holiday Luncheon	More info to Follow	Nancy Janusauskas
12/6/2015 (Sun.)	Christmas Tea	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	acparsons111@comcast.net
Doris Shuskus	860 561-2752	
Joy Fergusson	860 523-8017	
grammy2drewski@yahoo.com		
Judy Morris	860 747-6228	bjemorris@comcast.net
Karen Powers	860 665-0786	
Nancy Janusauskas	860 521-1166	nancyjay@comcast.net



**ALL WOMEN OF THE WEST HARTFORD UNITED
METHODIST CHURCH
ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO THE UMW'S
CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON
ON SATURDAY, DECEMBER 5th 2015
AT 12:00 NOON
Angelo's On Main
289 South Main Street, West Hartford**

**AS WE ENTER THE MOST JOYOUS OF HOLIDAYS ENJOY AN
AFTERNOON OF CHRISTMAS CAMARADERIE, SAVOR FOOD AND THE
GIFT OF CHRISTMAS**

----- **Cut here** -----

NAME _____

Please choose an entrée from the options below:

Baked Scrod _____ **Prime Rib** _____ **Chicken Parmesan** _____

We will have gluten free and vegetarian dishes as needed

Cost Per Person \$21.50

PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO 'UMW'

Please give to Nancy Janusauskas, April Parsons or Mary Suter



Operation Christmas Child

Each box should have:

Toothbrush
Toothpaste
Comb/Brush
Wash Cloth
Bar of Soap

Other items for the boxes:

Crayons
Markers
Scissors, Paper, Rulers, Pens, Pencil,
Pencil Sharpener's other school supplies
Toys Play-Doh Jump Ropes Playing cards, Jacks Harmonicas, recorders, small puzzles travel size
games Base Ball's Beanie Babies small trucks and cars Lego's , yoyo's watches,
(Coloring Books)Small, calculator's small flash light's Etch a sketch
Barrett's/Rubber Bands
Baby cups, Rattles
Socks Shirts Small shorts Hats
Hard Candy (should be in a separate plastic baggie)

Boxes may NOT contain:

War toys
Snakes
Any Liquids
Chocolate

If you would like to make a donation to the UMW they will do the shopping for things we need to fill the boxes. Please have donations to us by **November 16th**.

Please let Nancy J. know if you have any further questions and thank you for all your help. All boxes need to be back to the Church by **November 16th**.





Have your child color a Santa
and add a small note to the child that will receive the shoe Box.

Blessings Doris Shuskus and Nancy Janusauskas

October Birthdays

- | | | | |
|--------------|--------------------------------|--------------|---|
| October 3 - | Kim White | October 15 - | Evan Riddle |
| October 4 - | Sandra Gifford,
Lynn Thody | October 16 - | Jessica Fleming, Carl
Fleming, Carolyn Kryzanski |
| October 5 - | Julia Casey,
Karen Morris | October 17 - | John Raj, Joy Kinsella |
| October 6 - | Jim Armstrong,
Katey Welch | October 18 - | Grace Brusie |
| October 8 - | Lynda Anderson,
Suzy Rivera | October 20 - | Yanick Saila-Ngita |
| October 9 - | Jennifer Hildebrand | October 21 - | Khris Welch,
Stephen Weber |
| October 11 - | Jameson Rivera | October 22 - | Immanuel Paul,
Holly Saila-Ngita |
| October 12 - | Amy Meredith | October 30 - | Ken Shuskus |



October Anniversaries

- | | |
|--------------|-----------------------|
| October 6 - | Tina & Jeff Greene |
| October 19 - | Laura & Allen Molin |
| October 20 - | Lucy & Gary Fleming |
| October 21 - | Xanthe & Manny Sasser |
| October 30 - | Judy & Bruce Morris |

Please contact Karen Loveland at 860-521-7766
or whumc1959@sbcglobal.net to have your birthday or anniversary added.