

The Good News

March 2020

Journey to the Cross



941 Old Rock Hill Road, Wallingford, CT 06492
fumc.wallingford@gmail.com
www.fumc-wallingford.org
(203) 269-9100

What Does God Want Me to Give Up for Lent?

by Pastor Jacob Eun

Lent comes from an Old English word that means lengthen, signifying that the days are getting longer because spring is here. Lent is a 40 day journey of sacrifice, prayer, fasting, and reflection to the cross and empty tomb of Jesus Christ.

Many of us give up certain things for the forty days of Lent, and doing so can be a beneficial thing for us. But God's desire is for us to give up more than just a few days of chocolate or TV. In giving up chocolate, we are not necessarily focusing on self-denial so much as self-improvement. We fast because we want to express dependence on God and align ourselves with God. It is not about can we achieve our goals and test our limits, but more about can we depend on God when we are tempted.

Fasting is a test to see what desires control us and reveals the measure of food's mastery over us-or television or social media or whatever we submit to again and again to conceal the weakness of our hunger for God. Through fasting, we want to empty ourselves so that we can be filled with God again.

Let us not ask ourselves what should I give up, instead ask God what does God want us to fast. Name your sins, iniquities, and transgressions. Consider the depth of our sin and the height of God's love in Jesus and ask God for forgiveness. Let us name our sins and fast from them.

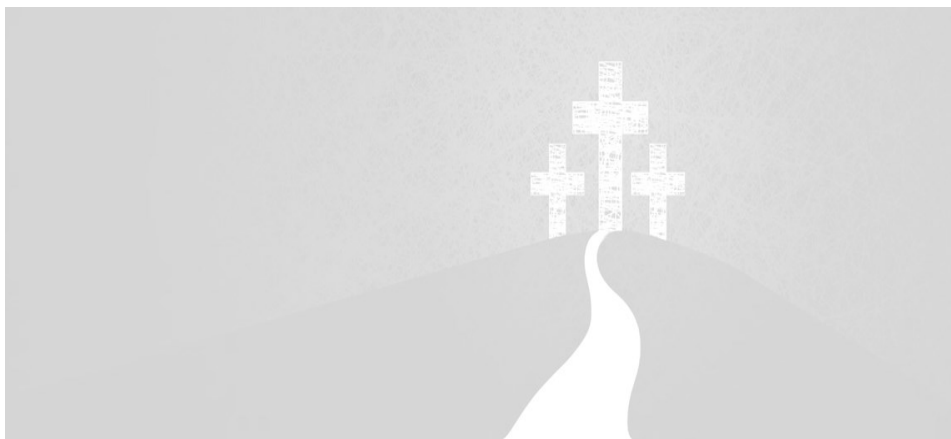


In March, we are launching our new (Lenten) worship series
Jesus' Seven Miracles according to the Gospel of John

According to the Gospel of John, Jesus performed seven miracles and the miracles of Jesus are called signs. John, the author, is very intentional in his word choice of signs instead of miracles. A sign always points towards something greater than itself, and John wanted us to see how the miracles of Jesus were pointing something greater than the miracles themselves.

As we share each story, may the wisdom of God lead us to the inspired purpose of Jesus' miracles-to encourage faith in Christ.

March 1	Miracle 1: Water Into Wine	John 2:1-11
March 8	Miracle 2: Healing of the Official's Son	John 4:43-54
March 15	Miracle 3: Healing of the Crippled Man	John 5:1-9
March 22	Miracle 4: Feeding of the Multitude	John 6:1-5
March 29	Miracle 5: Jesus Walking on Water	John 6:16-24
April 5	Miracle 6: Healing of the Man Born Blind	John 9:1-41
April 12	Miracle 7: Raising Lazarus from the Dead	John 11:1-44



WEATHERING THE STORM

Our church is cohosting a community event for women with an amazing organization called, Something to Chew On. We will gather women for a delicious meal where they shed the small talk and dive deeper into relevant conversation.

Where: FUMC of Wallingford

When: Saturday, March 28, 2020, 6-9PM

To register,

- 1) go to the website (www.somethingtochewonct.com)
- 2) Click **Register for an Event**
- 3) Scroll down the page and click **Weathering the Storm (Wallingford)**
- 4) Click **RSVP**
- 5) Fill out the form and submit

Register before it's too late!

Feedback from churches that cohosted events with Something to Chew On

“First of all, the organization is great. Very professional, loving and they have a clear plan (which is super helpful!) They definitely foster relationships and connect women with one another and with God.”

“As for the events themselves, we have loved how easy it's been for us. The only real commitment has been being there early to help with setup and cleaning up afterward. They take care of everything else (including food). For us, this has meant setting up tables and chairs with them and helping setup their supplies/decorations (they bring it all!).”

“The best part is how much the women are blessed by it. Our women have been encouraged each time, and always ask to do another event. It truly is a special organization that provides are great night (without a lot of work on our part which is awesome!)”

“We assist STCO with set up at the church, as well as securing people to lead worship and run the sound booth. They basically take care of everything else. It is well run and organized, and typically leads to heartfelt discussion among the ladies who attend. Because their events “sell out” quickly, I usually request a few days advance notice for the women from our church to sign up before it's opened to the general public.”



Shred Day

We are hosting a Shred Day Fundraiser at the church on **Saturday, April 4th, 2020 from 9AM - 12PM**. What better way to finish tax season than to shred old documents and files?

First of all, we thank you all for sponsoring the event. All the sponsors, individuals, and local business owners were generous in sponsoring the event. Thanks to your love and support, we were able to reserve a shred truck. We will begin our advertisement of the event with your business on all of our promotional flyers both online and offline. And upon request, we can also provide a donation letter for tax purposes.

For just **\$10-\$15** a box, folks can witness their documents being securely If you are interested in sponsoring the Shred Day.

WHEN:

Saturday, April 4 from 9:00am to 12:00pm

WHERE:

First United Methodist Church of Wallingford
941 Old Rock Hill Road, Wallingford, CT 06492

Suggested donations:

\$10 for a medium box

\$15 for a large box



COMMUNITY SHRED DAY

Lent Fasting

Pope Francis

Fast from hurting words and say kind words

Fast from sadness and be filled with gratitude

Fast from anger and be filled with patience

Fast from pessimism be filled with love

Fast from worries and have trust in God

Fast from complaints and contemplate simplicity

Fast from pressure and be prayerful

\Fast from bitterness and fill your hearts with joy

Fast from selfishness and be compassionate to others

Fast from grudges and be reconciled

Fast from words and be silent as you listen.

Why is Lent 40 days (excluding Sundays)?

The number 40 is a significant number for Christians.

Jesus spent 40 days in a desert.

Noah had to wait 40 days for his ark to float.

And Moses, along with his followers, traveled through the wilderness for 40 years before reaching the Promised Land.

Number 40 for Christians symbolizes discipline through tests and trials.

Announcements

Welcome

1. To schedule a time with Pastor Jacob, you can call 203-615-3214 or email at pastor.fumc@gmail.com.
2. You can support our church by shopping with scrip cards (ask Diane) and shopping at smile.amazon.com (with scrip cards you purchase) by selecting Wallingford United Methodist Church as your charitable organization.
3. Wireless hearing devices are available to assist your hearing.

Upcoming Meetings and Events

1. Something to Chew On is a nonprofit organization whose mission focuses on connecting and empowering women of the community. We are cohosting a free community event for women to come, eat, and share fellowship on Saturday, March 28 from 6:00 to 9:00pm. Register before it's too late.
2. Thank you all who went out and got sponsors or donated for our Shred Day, which is on Saturday, April 4.
3. Tag Sale is on Friday, May 1st and Saturday, May 2nd. Thank you Priscilla and the Tag Sale Team. We are excited for another successful year and times of sharing fellowship with each other.

Prayers for

1. Pastor Jacob will begin his Clinical Pastoral Education in March at Yale New Haven Hospital.

Ministry Captured



Neighbors of Wallingford across different faith traditions gathered to build relationships and spread love



Mark Your Calendar

3.1 (Sun)	Brainstorming	Sanctuary	after coffee
3.5 (Thu)	Cooperative Parish	FUMC Meriden	9:00am
3.7 (Sat)	Scrapbooking	Fellowship Hall	9:00am
3.10 (Tue)	Church Council	Education Wing	7:00pm
3.24 (Tue)	Trustees	Asbury Room	7:00pm
3.25 (Wed)	Transition Dinner	Colony Diner	5:30pm
3.28 (Sat)	Weathering the Storm	Fellowship Hall	6:00pm
3.29 (Sun)	SPRC	Asbury Room	after worship



Game nights are always fun



Happy Birthday

1 Phil Wargo	11 Jamie Holuba	25 Erin Marston & Lisa Barr
5 Joan Charbonneau	17 Melissa Perzanowski	27 Susan Coale
10 Ronald Perrin	18 Clifford Satton	29 Jessica Poach

Coworkers of Christ



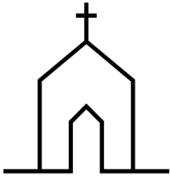
Unity House is almost ready to welcome a family



Troop 1's Pasta Night

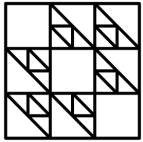
	Ushers	Counters	Scripture	Coffee Hour
3.1	Vern Grant John DeFilippo	John DeFilippo Paul Gwara		
3.8	Joan White Wendy P.	Sue Broughton Joan White		
3.15	Phil Wargo Steve Hubbard	John Baksa Phil Wargo		
3.22	Joyce Marston Diane Garland	Sue Broughton Joan White		
3.29	Vern Grant John DeFilippo	Sherri Willhelm Melissa P.		

Get Connected with Us



Sunday Worship Service

Come join us in worship! We want everyone to feel comfortable worshipping that in their own way. Some people dress up, many dress casually; it's up to you. There will be people ready to greet you. We are blessed and happy to have you join us in worship.



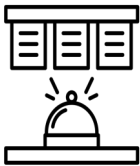
Tuesday Morning Quilt Group

We have a group of diligent workers who quilt every Tuesday morning at 9:30am. Great things are happening in this ministry: quilting, sharing laughter, and enjoying each other's company! Come and join us for some fun and friendship!



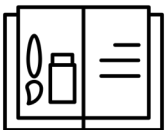
First Monday Book Club

We meet to have a lively discussion over books of all types-both fiction and non-fiction, serious and not too serious, recent and old -suggested by members. Join us for great time of discussion and fellowship. Please email or call to church office for more details.



Last Wednesday Transition Dinner

We meet every last Wednesday at 5:30pm at Colony Diner in Wallingford. If you are looking for delicious food or good friendship, you are more than welcome to join us. Call the church office before since the schedule may change for various reasons.



First Saturday Scrapbook and Craft Session

We meet every first Saturday of the month from 9:30am to 4:00pm at church. We have a plenty of work spaces with lengthy tables. Join us for the time of getting together over a range of crafts activities and moreover, some friendship.

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941 Old Rock Hill Road
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Non-Profit Organization
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For any questions, comments, or changes,
please contact us at 203.269.9100 or fumc.wallingford@gmail.com