

# The Good News

August 2020

We Are a Family



941 Old Rock Hill Road, Wallingford, CT 06492

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## Shalom to You Now

by Pastor Jacob Eun

In just a few short weeks of March, classification of the coronavirus (COVID-19) escalated from outbreak, to epidemic, to global pandemic. And everyone is impacted by this pandemic, in one way or another, and many people are still anxious and afraid.

Uncertainty is all around us, never more so than today. The current COVID-19 pandemic has heightened uncertainty over the economy, employment, finances, relationships, and of course, physical and mental health. [1] Fear and uncertainty can leave you feeling stressed, anxious, and powerless over the direction of your life. It can drain you emotionally and trap you in a downward spiral of endless “what-ifs” and worst-case scenarios about what tomorrow may bring. [2]

Fear was my immediate response to the pandemic. Will I be okay? What about people I love? Will they be okay? It is likely that COVID-19 won't go away for a while. It will continue to affect us in many ways. And the pandemic revealed long existent injustices embedded in individuals and societies such as racism and deaths of many innocent lives.

In my times of prayer during the past month, I sense a growing urge to explore the idea of God's peace. How is God's definition of peace different from others? What can we do once we found God's peace in us? Peace is not the absence of problems and difficulties of this life. Rather, it is the presence of God that walks with us through times of darkness and uncertainty. It carries with the idea of wholeness and completion.

Shalom gives us a vision that we can hold on to when the world around us is deeply fragmented. Let us reflect on this word and reconsider its importance in our modern lives. May we rediscover God's peace that is already in us.

Shalom,

Jacob

## New Worship Series for August

### Making Peace

The new reality of COVID-19 and this pandemic are telling us something about us: we are a profoundly broken society. Broken long before Covid-19 came along to highlight our deficiencies that have been inherent in society such as racism.

In this worship series, we are going learn a biblical meaning of peace and our divine call to be peacemakers. What is Peace? What does it mean to be peacemakers? How do I not lose peace and hope in times of uncertainty?

- |      |                                     |                            |
|------|-------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 8.2  | Making Peace: What is Peace? Shalom | John 16:33                 |
| 8.9  | Making Peace with COVID-19          | 2 Thessalonians 3:16       |
| 8.16 | Be Peacemakers                      | Colossians 3:15            |
| 8.23 | Making Peace with Yourself          | Matthew 11:28-30           |
| 8.30 | Making Peace with God               | John 14:27 and 1 Peter 5:7 |



## Church Reopening

We sent out a survey about what your thoughts were on church reopening and have received 16 responses. Seven people (households) voted that they do not feel safe yet about reopening and 9 people (households) voted that they will attend the church.

After much prayer and conversation, we have decided to continue meeting online for the months of August, and reopen on the first Sunday of September (but this is subject to change depending on our circumstances).

If any changes are made, we will keep you updated. Follow our Facebook Page (First United Methodist Church of Wallingford) or our website ([www.fumc-wallingford.org](http://www.fumc-wallingford.org)).

When we return to in-person services, everyone who enters into the building is required to follow all safety and health precautions issued by the State, CDC, NYAC, and our church, which are all available online on Google, Facebook page, and website.

If you belong to a category with higher risk of contracting the disease or developing severe illnesses, we encourage you to stay home.



## Join Us for Our Online Worship

### How to Join Our Online Worship on Facebook:

1. Log into your Facebook account on your phone or computer
2. Search First United Methodist Church of Wallingford or click here
3. Click the Live post (it will show 10 minutes before the service)

### How to Join Our Online Worship on ZOOM

1. Download and install ZOOM on your device
2. Join us by using the information below
3. Meeting ID: 838 994 3068 Password: 1234

### How to Join Our Online Worship on Phone

You don't need to have a computer or laptop

1. Call 1-929-205-6099
2. Enter our meeting ID: 838-994-3068# and then 1#
3. Enter password: 1234#



## Tour de Cure Ride for American Diabetes

July has come all too quickly! And unfortunately the corona virus is still strong! But "The Wallingford Wobblers" will ride or walk for ADA's Tour de Cure on or about August 16.

Jim Cragin, Brian Farrell Sue Schwabenbauer, Al Schwabenbauer, Barb Farrell and Phil Wargo are riding/walking AGAIN in the Fund Raiser, Tour de Cure-- for the American Diabetes Association

However, this year we will do it virtually, which means where ever we happen to be! You have generously supported me(us) in the past and your support again this year for this worthy cause will be greatly appreciated. Even more in these trying times of the virus!!

Checks can be made out to the American Diabetes Association and sent to me prior to Aug16 at 3 Spring Brook Rd, Wallingford, CT 06492 . Or you can pledge online to our team, "The Wallingford Wobblers" via the following secure web site: <http://tour.diabetes.org>. Click on donate, enter my name, or Wallingford Wobblers, and follow the instructions. All donations, no matter the amount, help the cause.

Thank you,

Phil Wargo



## Monthly Newsletter Subscription

We have been mailing our newsletter, the Good News, in the beginning of almost every month to your mailbox. Every month, more than 200 mails were delivered. We are deeply grateful for every one of you for staying connected with us and for continuing to be a part of our family.

Our monthly newsletters will be available online via email, Facebook, and website. Now, it is our goal to be more effective in our approach to stay connected with you all. We want to email our newsletters for those with internet and mail out paper copies to others without internet, but our priority is to stay connected with you all.

So for those of you who wish to continue receiving paper copies to your mailbox, please leave us a message (your name and mailing address) at 203.269.9100 or email us at [fumc.wallingford@gmail.com](mailto:fumc.wallingford@gmail.com)

For those of you who do not wish to receive the newsletter, let us know using the aforementioned information. Just leave us your name and a message that you want to be removed from our list of mailing.

For those of you who wish to stay connected with us online and receive an email copy of our newsletter, email us your name and email address.

We look forward to continuing our journey of faith with you all!



## Announcements

### Welcome

1. To schedule a time with Pastor Jacob, you can call 203-615-3214 or email at [pastor.fumc@gmail.com](mailto:pastor.fumc@gmail.com).
2. Connect with us online. Search First United Methodist Church of Wallingford on Facebook and like our page! Or go on our website [www.fumc-wallingford.org](http://www.fumc-wallingford.org)

### Upcoming Meetings and Events

1. Our 2020 CT District Conference will be held on Sunday, August 23 from 2:30-4:00pm at First United Methodist Church of Meriden (159 Main Street, Meriden, CT 06450). Virtual options are being considered.

### Reopening

1. We are taking this month of August to prepare ourselves to be certified for reopening. We will keep you updated on our
2. Meanwhile, we are meeting on ZOOM on every Wednesday at 7:00pm. Join us with the information provided on page 5.

### Support Our Ministries

1. You can support our church by shopping with scrip cards (ask Diane) and shopping at [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com) (with scrip cards you purchase) by selecting Wallingford United Methodist Church as your charitable organization.
2. We are grateful for your generous gifts contributed through our online website or mail that enabled us to serve faithfully our church family and our wider community. Here are three ways you can give:

Online: [www.fumc-wallingford.org/give](http://www.fumc-wallingford.org/give)

Mail your gift

Or drop at church (941 Old Rock Hill Road, Wallingford, CT 06492)



## Ministry Captured



Sunday Worship Service on ZOOM and Facebook



A small garden in the backyard of the parsonage. Enjoy the beauty of God's creation!



Pastor Jacob has successfully completed a spring unit of Clinical Pastoral Education. And this is a picture of him with his awesome supervisor, Kendall.

## Mark Your Calendar

Every Wednesday of July at 7:00pm	Fellowship on ZOOM
Every Sunday at 10:00am	Worship on ZOOM and Facebook
8.23 (Sun)	CT District Conference FUMC Meriden 2:30pm Might be virtual
9.6 (Sun)	Church Reopening
10.24 (Sat)	Annual Conference Clergy Virtual session 9:00am Virtual Annual Conference 1:00pm

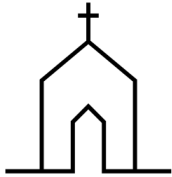
## Happy Birthday (August)

1 Skip Paquette	2 Sophie Walters	19 Ashley Arsenault
1 Joseph Paquette	5 Jannifer Paquette	21 Joan Ginter
2 Laurie Gingras	13 Glenn Marston	28 Michael Hacku



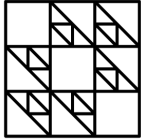
## No In-Person Meetings or Gatherings

We are putting a pause any in-person meetings as described on this page. For questions or more information about reopening or regathering, you can call our church at 203-269-9100 and leave a message or email us at [fumc.wallingford@gmail.com](mailto:fumc.wallingford@gmail.com).



### 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.



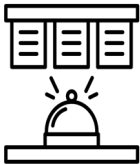
### Tuesday Morning Quilt Group

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!



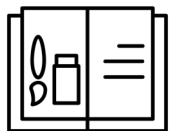
### First Monday Book Club

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.

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

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Below is the list of resource(s) that I used for this post. My apologies for the delayed upload of citations.

[1] <https://unitedafa.org/docs/eap/managing-uncertainty-2020.pdf>

[2] <https://www.helpguide.org/articles/anxiety/dealing-with-uncertainty.htm>

For any questions, comments, or changes,  
please contact us at 203.269.9100 or [fumc.wallingford@gmail.com](mailto:fumc.wallingford@gmail.com)