

The Good News

September 2020

You Are in Our Prayers



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You Are in Our Prayers

by Pastor Jacob Eun

We often think of prayer as a list of petitions, requests, and demands that we want to ask God to do for us. But no matter how much we want it or how desperate, earnest, and longing we may be, there are things that can't come true.

For some, to travel back in time and relive the youth. For others, to prevent obstacles of life and live a life that is stress-free. And for others, to be back with their beloved, deceased mother and once again rejoice in the love that was lost but found again.

If prayers can't make all things possible, why do we pray? Does God even listen to our prayers? "To say that prayer changes things is not as close to the truth as saying, 'Prayer changes me and then I change others.' God has established things so that prayer, on the basis of redemption, changes the way we look at others. Prayer is not a matter of changing things externally, but one of working miracles in our inner nature." [1]

Life sometimes can be challenging and tear you apart, pulling you from all different directions. Quite a lot of things go wrong over a lifetime. But the suffering is normal. "It is not a sign that life has gone wrong. It's an ordinary part of everyone's biography." [2] But what gives us hope and strength in such times is that we are not alone. There is someone who is praying for you.

When it seems that you prayed till your strength is all gone and your tears fall all the day long, Jesus cares and knows just how much you can bear. He will speak your name to someone in prayer. When your heart breaks in two, remember I am praying for you. We are praying for you. Know that God loves you and so do we. You are in my prayer. You are in our prayers.

May you feel loved, cared for, and prayed for in all ways and always.

In Christ,

Pastor Jacob

New Worship Series for September

The Greatest Prayer

The Lord's Prayer is memorized and recited by millions all around the world. It is widely quoted, and often many people think of it as just an old prayer from the past. But this prayer isn't just a great saying from the past. It's a powerful truth that should define how we live and pray in the present.

In this 4-part series we learn about how Jesus teaches us the right way to approach God in prayer. This is the timeless prayer that Jesus gave us. This is the prayer to be prayed every day. This is the prayer that we need to embody.

9.6	Our Father	God's Name
9.13	Father, Bring It	God's Will
9.20	Father, Provide It	God's Food
9.27	Father, Lead Us	God's Guidance



Church Reopening

After submitting the required documents to the Connecticut District, we were asked to provide more details and signatures. We will need more time to regroup ourselves to be certified for reopening.

As a result, we will not return to in-person service on September. However, it is our plan to have an outdoor service in the parking lot if weather permitted while practicing safety precautions. We will make sure to keep you updated on our website, Facebook, and emails.

Later, 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 and join us online.

And the New York Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church made deliveries of the basic start-up kit to all churches of the conference, which will better equip us for reopening.



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#



Pastor Jacob at Yale New Haven Hospital

A time in a hospital bed can be difficult. Some are lonely. Some are scared. And some are pessimistic. But this can be a valuable opportunity for patients to grow towards self, others, and God. I am there by them, with them, and for them to help them learn the lesson embedded within their sickness through my compassionate presence and listening ears.

Sometimes, as a novice chaplain, I walk into patient rooms with an expectation of what my ideal encounter with patients would be like: asking good, probing, and guiding questions, getting as much information I could, and giving them a cathartic experience that purges any unresolved emotions that they might have or develop in a hospital bed.

And many times, I am proven wrong. Many times, my presence is good enough to someone who is lonely. My invitation to pray is good enough to someone who is afraid. My offer to have a conversation is good enough to someone who needs a friend.

They might decline my invitation, but that's okay. They might not want me to be a part of their healing process, but that is okay. I believe in the sacred task that I am called to partake in embodying and channeling God's grace and love to those who are going through crucially difficult times.

When I am overwhelmed by life's responsibilities, I learned to pause and notice of what is around me and what has not gone remarkably wrong. I am in good health to serve others. The budding trees and blue skies are deeply reassuring. The familiar faces are comforting. Patients in hospital beds are new opportunities to deepen each other's humanity. And my most sincere gratitude for my church family for supporting me in my spiritual journey of serving and loving people at the hospital. You are my resting place amidst of busy life for you all channel God's love and grace onto me.

I give thanks to God for blessing me through my relationship with every one of you and all the love you pour out to me. It is my prayer that I give back to you and others what I receive from all of you.

Serenity Prayer

God, give me grace to accept with serenity
the things that cannot be changed,
Courage to change the things
which should be changed,
and the Wisdom to distinguish
the one from the other.

Living one day at a time,
Enjoying one moment at a time,
Accepting hardship as a pathway to peace,

Taking, as Jesus did,
This sinful world as it is,
Not as I would have it,

Trusting that You will make all things right,
If I surrender to Your will,
So that I may be reasonably happy in this life,
And supremely happy with You forever in the next.

Amen.

Reinhold Niebuhr



Announcements

Welcome

1. To schedule a time with Pastor Jacob, you can call 203-615-3214 or email at 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

Upcoming Meetings and Events

1. Our 2020 CT District Conference will be held on Sunday, September 27th from 4:30-6:30pm via Zoom.

Reopening

1. We won't be reopening in September and will be submitting more detailed documents with signatures to the district for certification.
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://www.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
 - Mail your gift
 - Or drop at church (941 Old Rock Hill Road, Wallingford, CT 06492)

Ministry Captured



NYAC's PPE Distribution of the basic start-up kit for reopening



Pastor Jeremiah Paul who came to serve both South Meriden Trinity and East Berlin
Welcome to our Cooperative Parish

Mark Your Calendar

Every Wednesday of July at 7:00pm Fellowship on ZOOM
Every Sunday at 10:00am Worship on ZOOM and Facebook

9.27 (Sun)	2020 CT District Conference	4:30pm
10.24 (Sat)	Annual Conference Clergy Virtual session	9:00am
	Virtual Annual Conference	1:00pm

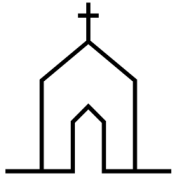
Happy Birthday (September)

7 Martha Lang	12 Kevin Buckley	22 Patricia Salabarria
10 Dean Paquette	14 Javier Salabarria	23 Jeffrey Baksa
11 Joyce Marston	22 Christian Paquette	29 Paul Hacku



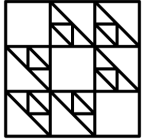
No In-Person Meetings or Gatherings

We are putting a pause on 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.



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.



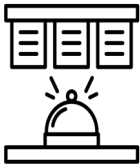
Tuesday Morning Quilt Group

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!



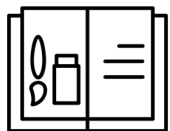
First Monday Book Club

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
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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://utmost.org/the-purpose-of-prayer/>

[2] <https://www.mindyog.com/blog/resilience/>

For any questions, comments, or changes,
please contact us at 203.269.9100 or fumc.wallingford@gmail.com