



The Good News

January 2021

New Beginning



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New Year, New Beginning!

by Pastor Jacob Eun

The year 2020 has been a really strange year. Our life is completely different. We went into it thinking, “2020 is going to be great. 2020 is about clear vision.” But pandemic allowed us to find many blessings that were easily dismissed in our lives.

But we also discovered blessings in disguise. We found joy in spending more time with the people in our home, connecting remotely with people maybe you haven’t for a time, some joy in focusing inward on yourself – taking a breath and finding God’s presence in and around you.

And here we are! It is a brand new year. This is a time of new beginnings—a time to reflect on the promises of newness and possibilities. God is making all things new. It is also a time to reflect on the fact that there is a time for everything under heaven.

We are called to renew our covenant with God—the covenant to be the people God calls us to be; to be God’s hands and feet in the world; and to bring the message that in God’s realm, there is comfort, love, justice, and a chance to begin anew.

But first, we need to reorient and realign ourselves with God by decluttering our soul. Our minds are preoccupied with ten or twenty different things that are going around us. So let us spend the first month of the year talking about tidying up our soul, schedule, finance, community, and purpose.

Below is the list of resource(s) that I used for this post.

The Abingdon Worship Annual 2021



Worship Series for January 2021

Does your life feel complex and cluttered? It's time to "Marie Kondo" your schedule and regain control over your inner world. In this January worship series, we will learn to stop living at a frenetic pace and start the new year anchored in the priorities that matter most. Discover the life-changing power of simplicity in your schedule, work, finances, relationships, and soul. Join us at First UMC to begin 2021 sparking joy!

| | |
|------------|--------------------------|
| January 3 | Soul Declutter |
| January 10 | Tidying Up Your Schedule |
| January 17 | Tidying Up Your Finances |
| January 24 | Simple Community |
| January 31 | Tidying Up Your Purpose |

Church Reopening

We have been certified to have in-person services by the NYAC. However, we are located between and surrounded by cities designated as COVID-19 hotspot communities.

To ensure the health and safety of our church family as well as our community, we decided to suspend our in-person services for a little longer. Meanwhile, we have been meeting on Zoom and Facebook.

We will keep you updated for any further information and plan in regards to reopening on our website or Facebook. Please stay tuned.

Thank you for your understanding and patience towards our attempts to remain safe and healthy.



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

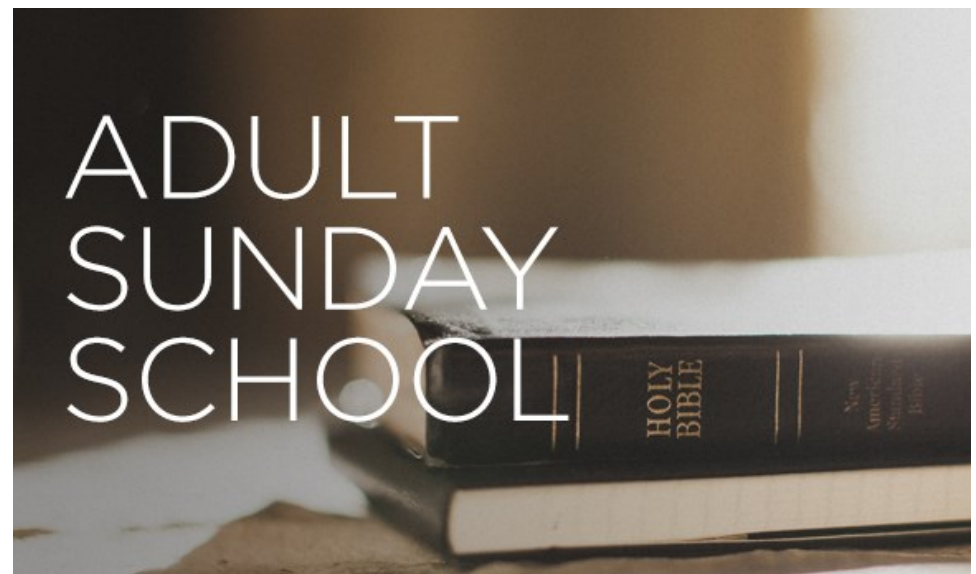
You don't need to have a computer or laptop

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



Adult Sunday School

It is a new year. It is a new opportunity to go deeper in your relationship with God. Kevin is bringing back our Adult Sunday School on Sunday mornings via Zoom before Sunday worship services. Kevin is our certified lay leader who is gifted with the knowledge of the Bible and gentle, caring spirit who will walk with you in your journey of faith. It is good to have a group of fellow Christians, brothers and sisters in Christ, who can journey with you. We will keep you updated with more details.



Dismantling Racism

As Christians, we have a divine call to see God's image in anyone whom we encounter and embrace them with the love of God regardless of skin color, education, socioeconomic status, age, etc.

We need to be able to identify and address the past and present sin of racism in our midst that is embedded deeply in our personal, communal, institutional, and society lives. It requires a great effort to intentionally and effectively address them.

We will begin our discussion on racism on Wednesday, January 13th at 7:00pm via Zoom. It is the same Zoom information as mentioned above that we use to join Sunday services.

Our study will be centered on a book called, *White Fragility*, by Robin DiAngelo and will take a course of two months. Olivia and Pastor Jacob will lead and preside discussions.



'Dismantling Racism' initiative announced for United Methodist Church

United Methodist Church leaders on June 19 launched a plan of action to galvanize church members and others to actively stand against racism in the wake of the death of George Floyd and protests across the United States. The "Dismantling Racism: Pressing on to Freedom" initiative is a multi-level effort throughout the church to initiate a sustained and coordinated effort to dismantle racism and promote collective action to work toward racial justice.

Themes sounded throughout included "enough is enough" and "this time it must be different." A day of prayer and worship will follow on June 24 with an online service to be broadcast at 12 noon CT on UMC.org/EndRacism and Facebook. A denominational virtual town hall event is being planned for July 1 with details to be announced. Regional and local worship events and town hall meetings involving community partners will subsequently take place, either online or in keeping with social distancing protocols.

United Methodist Communications has launched a national advertising campaign on social media and news websites across the U.S., as well as digital billboards in Atlanta, Minneapolis, Houston and Louisville. The ads direct viewers to a website, UMC.org/EndRacism, where they can find resources to help them learn more and take action.

The United Methodist Council of Bishops has asked all United Methodists to join in prayer at 8:46 a.m. and p.m. for 8 minutes and 46 seconds, the time the officer held his knee on George Floyd's neck, for at least the next 30 days.

Advocacy and worship resources will equip leaders, members and the public to join in this important racial relations work. To encourage wide participation, a variety of materials will be made available in English, Korean, Spanish, French and Portuguese translations.

The denomination has a long-standing history of advocating for justice. The Social Principles of The United Methodist Church recognize racism as a sin and commit to challenging unjust systems of power and access. Additional information and resources are available online at UMC.org/EndRacism.

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. Dismantling Racism Study on January 13.
2. Adult Sunday School before Sunday worship. More details will be posted

Reopening

1. We are suspending in-person services for a little longer to ensure our safety and health.

Support Our Ministries

1. 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.
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)

Mark Your Calendar

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

1.13 (Wed) Dismantling Racism Study Sessions
1.18 (Mon) MLK Jr. Day

Happy Birthday (January)

| | | |
|---------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 2 Jorge Torres | 14 Joan Dion & Jill Harris | 29 Lauren Shuttleworth |
| 4 Wendy Perzanowski | 15 Susan Hanson | 30 Betty Lynch |
| 5 Harold Reed | 20 Danny Walters | 31 Donna Barneschi, Eric Gingras, |
| 6 Scott Gingras | 24 Jane Wargo | Jennifer Williams |
| 11 Nancy Pogmore | 26 Christopher Garland | |
| 13 Linda Gardner | 28 Kristen DeFilippo | |

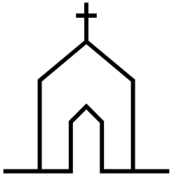


No In-Person Meetings or Gatherings

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.

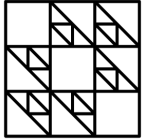
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Sunday Worship Service

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!



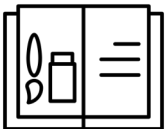
First Monday Book Club

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.

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