

# The Good News

May 2021

## You Are the Church in Your Home



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## You Are the Church in Your Home

by Pastor Jacob Eun

I write this letter to you as a family member. You all have known the commitment and sacrifices of a mother and father, the warmth of a family's care, the happiness and pain that are part of loving. I rejoice with you in your happiness. I walk with you in your sorrow. "So the message is one that springs from love and that offers you a reflection on love: how it is experienced in a family, how it is challenged, how it grows and enriches others, and how we are one church family." [1]

A family is our first community where God gathers us and forms us. God promised to be with us when two or more are gathered in his name. We give the name church to the people whom God gathers, who commit to follow God's way of love, and through whose lives God's saving presence is made known. The Christian family is a church.

But not every family is perfect. Some of us lived in single-parent families; others were adopted children. Some of us grew up in alcoholic homes. Some of us were raised in a financially affluent or scarce family. Some of us have felt the hurt of racial discrimination or cultural prejudice. Some of us suffered from significant troubles.

We know you face obstacles as you try to maintain strong family ties and to follow your calling as a church of the home. Some family pressures are due to broad social forces over which a family has little control. But other pressures are caused by personal choices, sometimes involving human weakness and sinful behavior. Perhaps they consider their family too "broken".

But remember, the story of family life is a story about love-sometimes shared, supported, and nurtured and sometimes rejected, confused, or lost. A family is holy not because it is perfect but because God's grace is at work in it, helping it to set out anew every day on the way of love. Moreover, I recognize the courage and determination of families with struggles. Somehow, you fulfill your call to create a good home and undertake responsibilities despite difficulties. You affirm life as a precious gift from God. When violent words and actions come to destroy life, you become a voice for life. You reflect the power of faith, the strength of love, and the certainty that God does not abandon us when circumstances are daunting." [2]

Again, remember, you are the church in your home. Love and never give up believing in a God whose love for you unconditional and never-failing. Form a picture of God through your experiences of love being parents, grandparents, and other family members. "Forgive and seek reconciliation over and over. Celebrate life. Come together when tragedy strikes, and the bond will grow deeper and stronger than ever. I give thanks to God for you, your family, and your church." [3]

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May we continue to grow in God as one church, one family.

Your in Christ,

Jacob

## New Worship Series:

### What to Do?

Jesus tells us, that in this life we will have trouble; but what do we do when we don't know which way to turn, how to get out of the dark places and how to respond when God is telling us something? While the answer is not always clear, in Christ, there is always a way.

- May 2**            What to Do When You Have to Wait
- May 9**            What to Do When You Have to Listen  
Mother's Day
- May 16**          What to Do When You're Struggling  
with Where God is Leading You
- May 23**          It's Okay to Not Be Okay
- May 30**          Celebrating God's Grace  
Memorial Day (31st)

WHAT | WHEN YOU | WHAT  
TO DO | DON'T KNOW | TO DO

## Mother's Day

One of the great commands in Scripture, and the first one with a promise, is the command to honor both father and mother. Yet, each year I am faced with the same question: What should I get my mom for Mother's Day? How do I show my love? Sometimes, to be quite honest, I get stuck. If you're stuck, too, here are three things most moms would love for you to do:

### 1. Relieve her of her duties.

Moms are busy. This Mother's Day, relieve moms of their usual to-do's by making it your responsibility. Plan the meal. Do the laundry. Help her catch up on something for work.

### 2. Reassure her with your words.

Hearing how a family feels about mom is the best present. Honor your mom with your words this Mother's Day.

### 3. Remember something she loves.

A thoughtful gift reminds your mom of how well you know her and that you're thinking of her. What does your mom love? Be creative.

It is all about giving her what she loves: you. Jesus gave. Love gives. Be creative in expressing your love for her. Take her to her favorite restaurant or to places where she always wanted to visit. Honor your mom by remembering what she loves on Mother's Day.



## Dismantling Racism

Our Anti-Racism Mission Statement:

*We the members of the First United Methodist Church of Wallingford stand with and support communities of color. We acknowledge the reality of racism, and take responsibility for the part that we have played in perpetuating inequality. We will listen and believe people of color, and we will be open to and thankful for their feedback. As our own community of faith, we are open and welcoming to all people. Together as a community, we will continue to fight racism.*

We began our conversation every Wednesday night at 7pm on Zoom around the topic of racism in January 2021 based on a book called, *White Fragility*, by Robin DiAngelo in our efforts to recognize racism as sin and to fight against it.

Our conversation will pause for the month of May for you to explore more on the topic and bring what you learn when we come back in June. If you want to join in our efforts to dismantle racism within our hearts and community, please contact the church office



## Shred Day

We give thanks to God for another successful year of hosting the Shred Day. We like to thank all of you who contributed to the event whether through planning the event, giving generous donations, being our sponsors who helped reserve the truck, showing up to volunteer, and keeping us in your thoughts and prayers.

Here are some snapshots of the event:



## Shred Day (continued)

Thanks to our generous sponsors and their donations, we were able to reserve the truck and host the event. Please support our sponsors and their local businesses.

### Auto

Darrell's Auto Service  
Plaza Service Center

### Home Improvements and Construction

Dee's Roofing Company  
Perrin Manufacturer

### Personal Services and Care

Back on Course Physical Therapy and  
Golf Fitness  
Best Yet Launderette  
Cody's Barbershop  
Hair by Loreen

### Pet Care

Dogfather Mobile Grooming

### Shopping and Retails

Barnes House of Flowers  
Corner Market  
East Center Street Market  
Meadow Walk Farm  
Plaza Service Center  
Sala's Corner Store

### Restaurants

Cheek's Chicken and Waffles  
Colony Diner  
Cousins Café and Deli  
East Side Pizza  
Rick's on Five  
Tata's Restaurant

### Other Sponsors

Back on Course LLC  
Sisters in Faith and Love, LLC  
RCP UL LLC  
and many others

## Church Reopening

After a long time of waiting and fasting our in-person worship and fellowship (I saw it as a full year Lenten journey), we reopened our church since the first week of April. Our church is approved and certified for reopening by the New York Annual Conference of the UMC. If you plan to attend in-person Sunday service at 10am, we ask that you follow our safety, health precautionary measures proposed by the CDC, Wallingford Health Department, NYAC of the UMC, and our church-including wearing a mask all the time, maintaining the social distance, and following the signages.

We are informed not to have the Sunday School ministry yet in order to protect our children as well as their families. But feel free to bring them to the church and join our worship. No need to worry if they make noises. We understand and love children are being children.

Our service will be livestreamed online on Zoom and Facebook. We have heard some feedback and suggestions how we can improve the quality of our online service, and we are grateful for your feedback. We ask for your patience and understanding that it will take us some time to implement some changes and some tests.



## 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#



## Mark Your Calendar

Every Wednesday at 7:00pm

Racism Discussion on ZOOM

Every Sunday at 10:00am

Worship on ZOOM and Facebook

5.1 (Sat)	CT District Conference	1-3pm	Zoom
5.9 (Sun)	Mother's Day		
5.17 (Mon)	Tax Day		
5.31 (Mon)	Memorial Day		

## Happy Birthday (May)

2 Allen Garland, Jr.  
& Patricia Levasseur

13 Lauren Hacku  
16 Aubree Muszynski

17 Linsey Walters  
20 Susan Lamour Gerardo



## 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](http://www.fumc-wallingford.org)

### Upcoming Meetings and Events

1. Church Reopening on Easter Sunday (4.4)
2. Wednesday Discussion will pause for May and resume in June.
3. CT District Conference (5.1)

### Reopening

1. We reopened our church for in-person worship. If you plan to attend, please follow all the health and safety measures.

### 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](http://www.fumc-wallingford.org/give)
  - Mail your gift
  - Or drop at church (941 Old Rock Hill Road, Wallingford, CT 06492)

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

Non-Profit Organization  
U.S. Postage PAID  
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Wallingford, CT

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

[1] [2] [3] <https://www.usccb.org/topics/marriage-and-family-life-ministries/follow-way-love>

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