



The Good News

April 2023

Wallingford First United Methodist Church

941 Old Rock Hill Rd
Wallingford CT 06492

fumc.wallingford@gmail.com

www.fumc-wallingford.org

203-269-9100

Soon Kook Ahn Pastor

Worship with us
Sundays at 11:00 am
In person or on Zoom
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/6058662108>
Meeting ID: 605 866 2108

Pastor's Letter

When we climb up a mountain, we stop at times to take a rest, to enjoy the beautiful scenery, and to find out how far we need to keep going up. But there is another important reason for us to stop, that is to find out whether we are on the right path. If not, we need to change the course. Otherwise, we will waste our time and energy and our journey will end with regrets.



I believe our Lenten journey is like the stops in our faith journey. Though we fix our eyes on Christ Jesus, we realize that we are off from the right path and the relationship with Christ Jesus has been weakened. It is hard to be found when we are constantly moving. When we stop and look around, however, we would be able to find where we are and who we are with.

We know that the destination of our Lenten journey is the glorious resurrection of Christ Jesus beyond the cross. The last week of the Lenten journey is called Holy Week and it is the hardest time because it is a steep and narrow uphill battle. We will be lonely because Jesus walked on his own and we would feel the pain of Jesus' agony. Yet we have to keep going up because Christ Jesus walked and suffered for our sake. The cross is the biggest stumbling block before glory. Christ Jesus changed the meaning of the cross from shame, curse, punishment, and death to hope, blessing, and salvation.

We need to remember that Christ Jesus is with us and we are with Christ Jesus! Are we holding the hand of Jesus? Let us stop ourselves from our busy schedule and from doing

various tasks because recovering the live and intimate relationship with Christ is the foundation and the priority for our blessed life. Are we feeling the loneliness and pain of Jesus? Do we see Christ Jesus on the cross? Then we are on the right path and the Lord will guide us into the joy and hope of the glorious resurrection.

May the Lord of grace and mercy grant the peace and blessings of life everlasting in his resurrection! Amen.

Pastor Ahn

Paper Shred Day!



April 1

9:00 am - 12:00 pm

Stay in your car - bags/boxes in trunk

Drive through

we will unload bags/boxes to shred truck)

Donation \$10 - \$15 per bag/box

A graphic for Holy Week Schedule featuring icons of a palm branch, a plate of bread, a chalice, a crown of thorns, a cross, a tomb, and a rising sun, set against a background of palm fronds.

Holy Week Schedule

Palm Sunday
April 2, 11:00 am

Maundy Thursday
April 6, 7:00 pm
Higganum UMC
248 Saybrook Road
Higganum,

Good Friday
April 7, 7:00 pm
Meriden FUMC
159 East Main St, Meriden

Easter Sunday
April 9, 11:00 am

Looking Ahead

A JOINT SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE with our brothers and sisters in Christ will be held at the Higganum UMC on **Sunday, April 23** at 10:00 am. A **potluck** lunch will be served after the service. For a ride, please contact John DeFilippo.

PULPIT EXCHANGE will be held on **April 30**. Rev Ken Kieffer will come to our church to deliver the Lord's message for us and Pastor Ahn will be at the Cheshire UMC for the worship service.

DISTRICT CONFERENCE will be held on Saturday, **April 29** at the West Harford UMC (1358 New Britain Avenue, West Hartford, CT 06110). Lunch will be served from 12:00 pm and the conference will be from 1:00 pm until 2:30 pm. A featured guest speaker is Professor Priscila Pope-Levison and she will speak on Evangelism. All are welcome!
Lenten Bible Study

LENTEN BIBLE STUDY: 24 HOURS THAT CHANGED THE WORLD will be held Wednesdays, **April 12 and April 19** at 7:00 pm and you can join via zoom. The link will be sent to you every week. The textbook was written by Rev. Adam Hamilton, Senior Pastor of the United Methodist Church of the Resurrection in Leawood, KS. He said, "The aim of this book is to help you better understand the events that occurred during the last 24 hours of Jesus' life, see more clearly the theological significance of Christ's suffering and death, and reflect upon the meaning of these events for your life." Let us join together with Christ Jesus and with one another in our special Lenten journey! All are welcome and let Pastor Ahn know if you are interested.

Wallingford Community Easter Dinner

Full Home Cooked Easter Meals with Dessert Will Be Provided for Curbside Pick-up Only

And

Meals Will Be Delivered to the Homebound

- ~ No Inside Dining ~
- ~ Curbside Pick-up Only ~
- ~ No Charge ~

First Congregational Church 23 South Main St., Wallingford
Easter Sunday April 9th
12:00 noon-2:00 p.m.

Please call (203) 514-8883

To Pre-order Homebound Meals or to Volunteer to Deliver Homebound Meals (Delivery Drivers Needed!)
Only Homebound meals need to be pre-ordered.
Dessert donations greatly appreciated

Tag Sale

May 20th (Saturday), 8:00 am. to 2:00 pm. *Held in memory of Karen Tyler and Pricilla Perrin.* Come and find great deals on housewares, home décor, jewelry, toys, sports, gardening and delicious baked goods and MORE!
We will need a lot of volunteers. There will be sign up board in the Narthex soon.

The first day for donations will be Sunday, April 30th after service until 2:00 pm. Questions? Contact: Susan G., Sue B. and Kagee.

News from the Trustees

May 6th Parsonage clean-up/open house. We will spend time doing final cleaning and then have a picnic.
July 29th Chicken Barbeque. More info to follow.

Prayer Chain

If you wish to share prayer needs or thanks call Pat Levasseur at 203-269-0951 to start the chain. Share as much information or as little as you are comfortable. And make sure you have permission from the person in need to share.

Notes from the Quilt Group

The Quilt Group meets every Tuesday from 9:00 - 12:00. We make quilts for the children at the Hole in the Wall Gang Camp. Almost as important as the gifts to the camp is the companionship we share. If you would like to join us, stop by any Tuesday.

Sign up!

We need volunteers to help with our worship services! You can sign up for **Ushering**, **Coffee Hosts**, and **Communion Stewards** (help Pastor Ahn distribute the communion elements) on the table in the Narthex under the bulletin board. Thank you.

Transitions Dinner

Every last Wednesday of each month we meet for dinner and fellowship at 5:30 at Colony Diner. Contact Donna Graham, 203-440-0403, if you'd like to attend so she can arrange reservations.

Craft Group

The first Saturday of each month we host a craft group from 9:00 am - 3:00 pm downstairs in the fellowship hall. All crafters are welcome, bring a lunch if you'd like.

Altar Flowers

If you wish to supply flowers on the altar in honor of or in memory of someone, or just because 😊 Sign up on the chart in the Narthex (*please list **on the chart** who/what the flowers are in memory/honor of*) and put a check in the envelopes provided.

Upcoming meetings:

CHURCH COUNCIL will meet on Tuesday, April 11 at 7:00 pm. You may contact Kristen DeFilippo if you have any questions or suggestions.

BOARD OF TRUSTEE will meet Tuesday, April 25 at 7:30 pm. Please contact John DeFilippo if you have any questions or suggestions.

News of the family:



Combined Ash Wednesday Service was held on February 22 at our church. There were food collections and offerings for the Master's Manna. A check in the amount of \$1,035.38 was delivered to the Master's Manna by Steve & Kagee Hubbard and Pastor Ahn.



Manna Board of Directors.



Infant Baptism for *Amelia Ginter* was held during worship service on March 12. Proud parents are Brian and Kacie. Brian is a grandson of Joan Ginter. Congratulations!



Thank you for your continuing support to our common cause - "The fight against food insecurity." Your donation, combined with

others like you, enable us to keep the doors open for the 1,500 people who use our services. It is also a heart warming thought that so many local residents come together to help their neighbors who are needy. If there is anything we can do for you or if you have a question, please do not hesitate to ask.
Sincerely, Master's



DEEPEST SYMPATHY is expressed to the family of Emmy Lou (Emma Louise Atherholt) upon her passing. She passed away on March 16 at the age of 90. The funeral service was held on March 24 at our church. Her bright smile, warm character, deep love for our church, and passionate dedication to the ministry of God will be dearly missed by us all. Your prayers for peace and comfort for her family will be greatly appreciated.



I can't begin to thank FUMC Wallingford enough for all of the prayers! My surgery and hospital stay was the longest, hardest fifteen days of my entire life, but my recovery has finally begun. Thank you for all your prayers. They literally kept me close in the arms of Jesus when I truly wasn't sure I would make it through. My head was constantly filled with hymns, praise songs, and conversation with my Lord - even at the hardest times. I will admit to begging Jesus and Mark to let me go, but neither would. Through the darkest days, when the pain and the struggle to breathe was the hardest, I never felt alone.

I would ask that you continue to pray as I begin my long road to recovery. Thanks again from the bottom of my mended heart.
Karen Hausmann

Birthdays

Jamie Rolan (4/4) Vernon Grant (4/11)
 John Baksa (4/13) Jim Gardner (4/19)
 Sherri Wilhelm (4/22) Valerie Gwara (4/23)
 Richard Miller (4/24) Gail Mackiewicz (4/25)
 Steve Hubbard (4/26)

Anniversaries

Steve & Kagee Hubbard (4/3/71)

Mark your Calendar

April 1 9:00 am Shred Day
 10:00 am 7th Day Advent Church
 April 2 10:00 am Choir Practice
 10:00 am Sunday School
 11:00 am Service of Worship
 Palm Sunday
 April 4 10:00 am Quilt Group
 April 6 7:00 pm **Maunday Thursday @ Higganum UMC**
 April 7 7:00 pm **Good Friday @ Meriden FUMC**
 April 8 10:00 am 7th Day Advent Church
 Sept 9 10:00 am Choir Practice
 10:00 am Sunday School
 11:00 am Service of Worship - **Happy Easter!**
 April 11 10:00 am Quilt Group
 7:00 pm Church Council
 April 13 7:00 pm Boy Scout Troop 1
 April 15 10:00 am 7th Day Advent Church
 April 16 10:00 am Choir Practice
 10:00 am Sunday School
 11:00 am Service of Worship
 April 18 10:00 am Quilt Group

April 20 7:00pm Boy Scout Troop 1
 Deadline for May Newsletter
 April 22 10:00 am 7th Day Advent Church
 April 23 10:00 am Service of Worship at Higganum UMC.
 11:00 am Pot Luck t Higganum
 April 25 10:00 am Quilt Group
 7:00 pm Trustees
 April 26 5:30 pm Transitions Dinner at Colony Diner
 April 27 7:00 pm Boy Scout Troop 1
 April 29 10:00 am 7th Day Advent Church
 April 30 10:00 am Choir Practice
 10:00 am Sunday School
 11:00 am Service of Worship
 Bring your Tag Sale items in!
 May 2 10:00 am Choir Rehearsal
 10:00 am Sunday School
 11:00 am Service of Worship - Holy Communion




Join us
 for
Combined Worship
 with
Higganum UMC
248 Saybrook Rd, Higganum
Sunday
April 23
10:00 am
 Potluck to follow

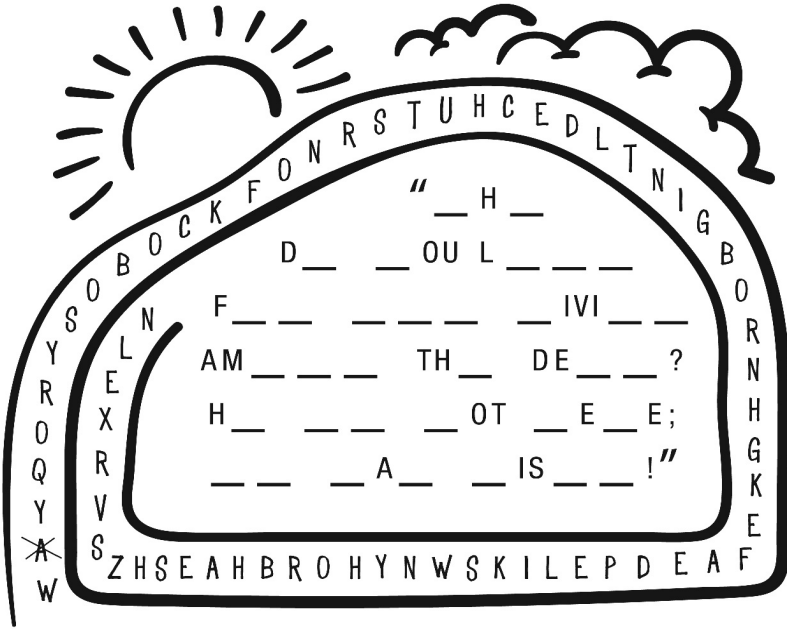
Cooperative
Ministry



EASTER MORNING *message*

Early Sunday morning, some women who followed Jesus encountered a great surprise. Solve the puzzle to see what the angels told them.

Directions: Cross out every other letter in the maze. Write the remaining letters in order to complete Luke 24:5-6, NIV.



LUKE 24:5-6, NIV

Answer: "Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here; he has risen!" Luke 24:5-6, NIV

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