



November 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 10:00 am
In person or on Zoom
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/6058662108>
Meeting ID: 605 866 2108

Pastor's Letter

The Ceremony of Reception of New Members that was held last Sunday would be one of the most exciting things that happened at our church in the year of 2023. Our awesome God sent 11 new members to our church and the potluck lunch was filled with joy and gratitude. It reminds me of the celebration of the 60th Anniversary of our Sanctuary in January of this year. I had mixed emotions at that time. On one hand, I was truly grateful to God for the strong and sacrificial dedication of our church members who built this beautiful sanctuary 60 years ago with the vision and love of God. On the other hand, however, I was saddened because there were many empty seats in the sanctuary. Our God who is merciful and faithful blessed us by sending our new brothers and sisters in Christ. But I know that there is a way to go because God's desire is to save all in the world. For this reason, we must continue to proclaim the gospel of Jesus and to deliver the freedom, hope, and blessings of God throughout the world.

In Matthew 9:37-38, Jesus said to his disciples with the heart of compassion:

"The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest."



There are so many people who are in fear, pain, and sadness in the world today. We saw another mass shooting last night in Lewiston, Maine. The result was beyond imagination and we could hear the crying voices of the families and friends who lost their loved ones.

In Psalm 13:1-2, David earnestly asks God for deliverance from his enemy because he was in fear and darkness.

How long, O Lord? Will you forget me forever? How long will you hide your face from me? How long must I bear pain in my soul and have sorrow in my heart all day long? How long shall my enemy be exalted over me?

The only way to get rid of darkness is to bring light. Likewise, the only way to cast away fear and darkness is to bring the resurrecting power of Jesus Christ. With our new members, let us go out into the Lord's field with genuine love of Jesus until the earth is filled with the knowledge of the glory of the Lord! Amen.

Pastor Ahn

Annual Charge Conference

ANNUAL CHARGE CONFERENCE will be held at our church on **Sunday, November 12 at 2:00 pm** with the churches in our Cooperative Parish: Cheshire UMC, Yalesville UMC, and Grace UMC in Southington. All church members are expected to be present.

WHOLE CHURCH MEETING WITH DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT will be held on Wednesday, **November 15 at 5:30 pm.**

Holiday for Giving

On **November 1st** two boxes from Holiday for Giving will be delivered to our narthex. The first box will be for new, unwrapped presents. The second box will be for hats, gloves, scarves, and rubber winter boots (so children can play on the playground if we get snow.) Also, there was a request for coats for children. On **December 5th** the boxes will be picked up. We can get additional boxes if needed. On December 4th to the 12th there is a need for volunteers to sign up to bag the huge collection of food that is donated by all the schools in Wallingford. I did this last year with my sister, and we had a great time. Let's pick a day or two to sign up together. More details to follow. Co-Chairs of Mission Committee, Susan Gerardo, Sue Broughton, & Kagee Hubbard



Food Collections for Master's Manna

The food items they need are Cereal, Peanut Butter & Jelly, Hearty Soups, Pasta, Pasta Sauce, Tuna/Canned Meats, Rice/Side Dishes, Canned Fruit, 100% Fruit Juice, Canned Vegetables, Other Beans

Your thoughtfulness and generosity will be deeply appreciated.



Food Collection

In our Church



CEREMONY OF BAPTISM for Bella Rose Hastings was held during worship service on October 8. Her proud mother is Christina Grant and her proud maternal grandfather is Bill Grant.



CEREMONY OF RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS was held during worship service on October 22. Eight new members are Barbara Carr, Brittany Caruso, Paul Caruso, Jill Casey, Chad Dougherty, Sandra Dougherty, Christina Grant, Jaroslava Jungmann, Maryann Pasquence, Emily Reed, and Lisa Rosengrant. Let us welcome our brothers and sisters in Christ with the love of Christ Jesus!

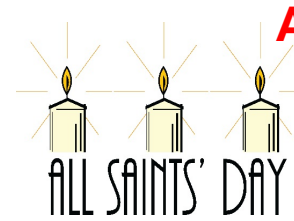




POTLUCK LUNCH was also held on October 22 in honor and celebration of welcoming new members. Our deep appreciation is expressed to Joan Charbonneau and all who made it a great success.

TRANSITION LUNCH was held on Wednesday on October 25 at the Colony Diner in our town. It was full of joy and the next lunch is scheduled to go to the Korean & Japanese restaurant Ichiban in Hartford on Wednesday, December 6 at noon. All are invited! You may contact Donna Graham if you have any questions. All are welcome!

LAITY SUNDAY will be celebrated on October 29 in honor and appreciation of all laity for their active and dedicated participation in the Lord's ministry. The worship service will be led by laity.



All Saints Sunday

ALL SAINTS SUNDAY on **November 5** and we will remember our loved ones who passed away in this past year during the Moment of Remembrance. The names that will be remembered are:

*Emma L. Atherholt,
Cherry Snedeker,
Art Thomas,
Michael Dion,
Ann Marie Hebert,
Donald Flick,
Cathay Flick,
Joyce M. Gingras,
Rev. John A. Carr,
Martha F. Lang,
Marilyn J. Burpee,*

*Michael F. McClellan
James McElhone
Donna Bush
Katherine Swenson
Patricia Coughlin
Dolly (Florence) Parisi
Irene Eimutis
Ruth Froggatt
Catherine Zorn
Robert (Bus) Williams
Leigh Barnes*

If you have someone that you want to be remembered, please let Pastor Ahn know.

VETERANS DAY

VETERANS SUNDAY will be celebrated on **November 12** and we will express our deep gratitude to the veterans who honorably served and are actively serving members in the military. The names are below:

Honorably Discharged:

*Gerry Dion,
Vernon Grant,
David Harris,
Robert Mullen,*

*Phil Wargo,
Nicholas Bosch,
Sean Boussard*

Actively Serving:

*Justin Ahn (US Army), James Ahn (US Navy)
Military families... Blue Star Families & Gold Star Families. If you know anyone to be added, just let Pastor Ahn know.*

Upcoming

LAITY CONVOCATION will be held on **Saturday, November 18** from 9:00 am until 2:00 pm at the Golden Hill UMC in Bridgeport.

THANKSGIVING SUNDAY will be celebrated on **November 19**. We will dedicate Thanksgiving Offering, Pledge 2024, and Ministry Opportunities.

CHURCH COUNCIL will meet on Tuesday, November 14 at 7:00 pm. You may contact Kristen DeFilippo if you have any questions or suggestions.

BOARD OF TRUSTEE will meet Tuesday, November 28 at 7:30 pm. Please contact John DeFilippo if you have any questions or suggestions.

CRAFTS GROUP will be held on Saturday, November 4 from 9:00 am until 3:00 pm. You may contact Kristen DeFilippo if you have any questions.

PRAYER MEETING & BIBLE STUDY is being held every Thursday at 3:00 pm at our church. You can join at any time and please contact Pastor Ahn if you are interested.

Our **Choir** rehearses at 9:00 am on Sundays. We are always looking for new members so if you want to praise the Lord in this way please join us!

GREENING OF THE CHURCH will be celebrated during our worship service on **December 3** which is the first Sunday of Advent. Our sanctuary will be decorated with Chrismons (Symbols of Christmas ornaments). You may contact Pastor Ahn if you would like to read a script.

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 and put a check in the envelopes provided.

From The Trustees

The Trustees have purchased an emergency defibrillator which will soon be mounted in the Narthex. This was made possible through the extreme generosity of Susan Broughton and her family. This device is important to have in our Church but we also pray to God that we never need to use it.

DEEP SYMPATHY is expressed to Anne Levix upon the loss of her good neighbor Michael Foster McClellan who passed away on October 1 at the age of 68. Joan White and her family upon the loss of her beloved sister Marilyn J. Burpee who passed away on October 1 at the age of 76 in Maine.

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.

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.

Thank You Note

Dear Steve,
I want to thank you for sending the group Get Well card. I hope folks introduce themselves to me so I can get familiar with names and faces. I am on the mend, starting to do stairs. Hope to see everyone in one or two more masses.
Sincerely, Nanette
(*Nanette is the girlfriend of Tony who has been with us for many years and Steve Hubbard was in charge of sending the cards to her.)

Birthdays

Amy Miller (11/11)	Maryann Pasquence (11/11)
Timothy Tyler (11/14)	Conner Poach (11/14)
Sandra Smart (11/15)	Jane Kim (11/16)
Amy Kang (11/20)	Donna Graham (11/26)
Adline Poach (11/29)	

A church calendar can be found on our church website at www.fumc-wallingford.org



Thanksgiving is just around the corner!
Your help is needed to feed 300 neighbors in need and the homebound.

Make a donation or volunteer

Checks made payable to Wallingford Community Dinners, Inc.

can be mailed to PO Box 211, Wallingford, CT 06492

Many hands make light work, so we need lots of help!

Students in need of service hours are welcome. Make it a family volunteer opportunity!

Volunteers can sign up to help in 1-3 hour shifts or the full day.

Prior to the event: *Food Prep, Cooking & Table set up*
Event day from 9am to 3pm: *Serving tables, Drivers to deliver to homebound, Cleanup*

**Ready to volunteer? Have questions?
203-514-8883**

WallingfordCommunityDinners@gmail.com

Thanksgiving is November 23

Dinners are served at the
First Congregational Church
23 South Main Street,
Wallingford, CT

