



Summer 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

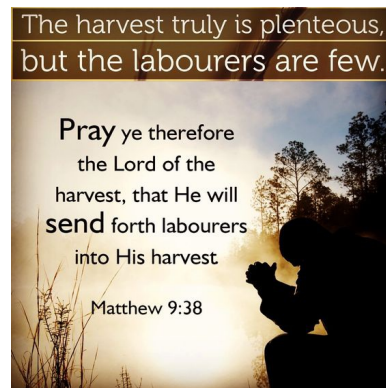
Worship with us
Sundays at 10:00 am
In person or on Zoom
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/6058662108>
Meeting ID: 605 866 2108

Pastor's Letter

There are two meanings in the word 'time': one is 'chronos' and the other is 'kairos'. The former one means chronological order, but the latter one is God's order or God's time. We may think we live and rely on a daily, monthly, or yearly calendar as we struggle to finish the long list of 'to do' in life. Looking back on our life, however, we may realize that many of the happenings were done beyond our expectations, preparations, or even controls. We might have felt frustrated at times, yet we certainly discovered the presence and help of God with his invisible, yet mighty hands and gentle guidance as the Apostle Paul confessed: *"I am what I am by the grace of God."* (1Corinthians 15:10)

For Methodists, appointment change is not new, but in each appointment change brings us joy and hope. As you may know, I will be serving our church as a full time base from July this year. I am deeply grateful to God for your thoughtful consideration and heartfelt support for me and my family. I feel the Lord's peace and joy in me. I know I am truly blessed by your prayers and hospitality. For the past year, I saw your deep love for Jesus and dedication to the ministries of God through our church. They were evident, powerful, and inspiring. I believe the Lord has a greater vision for our church and I commit to follow the way of the Lord.

It is a time for us to change, renew, and recommit for the Lord has an awesome vision for our church. Let us build up the body of Christ which is church together for the Lord is anxiously calling us as it is written in Matthew 9:37-38:



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

We now believe that we live in God's time and the Lord will do greater things in the days to come! Praise the Lord and thanks be to God! May the Lord continue to fill your hearts with deep joy and faith in Christ Jesus!

Pastor Ahn

New Worship Hour!

NEW WORSHIP HOUR: From July 2, the Sunday Worship Service will begin at **10:00 am**.



House Warming Party

Pastor Ahn and Amy invite everyone to their newly renovated home, church parsonage on **Saturday, July 15 at 12:00 pm** (40 Lincoln Avenue, Wallingford, CT 06492) in true gratitude for the outpouring love and hospitality of the congregation as Pastor's family settle in a new home. Special thanks to the Board of Trustees for their tireless work for the parsonage for the past year. All are invited and let us be together in the joy of the Lord!

Pastor's Vacation

Pastor Ahn will be on vacation from Monday, June 20 until Saturday, July 1. A Certified Lay Servant Rick Johnson will deliver the Lord's message for us on June 25. Our deep appreciation is expressed to Rick Johnson for his dedication and willingness to serve!

Chicken BBQ



CHICKEN BBQ will be held on **July 29** from 5:00 pm until 7:00 pm. Tickets will be available soon and please contact John DeFilippo if you have any questions.

Pulpit Exchange

PULPIT EXCHANGE will be held on **July 30**. Rev. Carol Bloom from the Grace UMC in Southington will come to our church to deliver the Lord's message for us. Pastor Ahn will be at the Grace UMC in Southington on that day.

Bottle Drive for the Love Fund

The Sunday School will be holding a bottle drive for the month of July. Please bring your redeemable bottles and cans to church any Sunday during July and **place them in the first Sunday school room on the left**. It will be helpful if you separate cans from plastic. Can we fill up the entire room with recyclables before the end of the month? All proceeds will go to the Love Fund.

Sharon Willhelm



New York Annual Conference

REPORT ABOUT THE NEW YORK ANNUAL CONFERENCE All, Please let me preface this with the fact that I am a terrible student and an even worse secretary. I am writing up this report more as a first experience than specifics that were discussed.

Driving from Higganum was a bit stressful, give yourself 3 hours or more. You will think you are making great time, until

you get to Bridgeport, Stamford, and New York. Eventually, I made my way to the campus. I had no idea where to go, so I went into the Student Center and asked around. Eventually, I realized that I had to go to the "Arena". I made my way there and everything started. I checked in at one spot, got my name badge, and went to another location to get my room keys.

Everyone was very friendly and helpful. I still had no idea where my dorm room was, but things were already started at 8:30 AM, so I left my stuff in my vehicle. There was a lot of walking between the Student Center and the Arena, for food and the various sections.

This year, they decreased the number of days from 4 to 3, trying to get all the work done. There was no real downtime. We went from one thing to another. We didn't finish up on Friday until after 10:15 PM, with breakfast happening bright and early the next morning. I finally found my room, and was too tired to sleep, so I read for a bit.

Saturday turned out to be another marathon day, ending after 10:30PM.

Sunday made it all worth it. We got to see a number of young people be confirmed by Bishop Bickerton, as well as 2 young men become Ordained Elders and one young woman become an Ordained Deacon. I had tears in my eyes seeing this wonderful ceremony.

Some of the items we went over:

Disassociation of 6 churches from the United Methodist Church. They were all approved to be disassociated. As part of that agreement, they will have until December 31st, 2023, to pay off any outstanding balances owed for apportionments, etc., but if they affiliate with another Methodist doctrine, they will not have to pay off the church and property. That was at least my understanding. If, however, they go independent, they would also owe for the church and properties. I felt that these were very difficult decisions for everyone involved, and the decision was not entered into

lightly. Bishop Bickerton did state that we were sad to see them go, and everyone was very respectful throughout the proceedings.

We went over a number of outreach programs that various churches were performing, such as Thanksgiving Dinner to the homeless, Cooking food outreach to teach cooking, gathering food and goods for asylum seekers. These churches received a portion of a grant totaling \$12,000. Budget was approved. There was a "last minute" amendment to increase the amount of money taken from reserves, but it was voted down.

Should I be chosen again next year to attend, I will be willing. Now that I have gone through the process, I think I might make a better secretary to be able to craft a better report.

Thank you,
Rick Johnson

Prayer Meeting & Bible Study

PRAYER MEETING & BIBLE STUDY will resume on Thursday, **September 7!** It will be held every Thursday at 7:00 pm. You can join at any time. You may contact Pastor Ahn if you have any questions.



CONGRATULATIONS to

Gerry and Joan Dion upon the birth of their great granddaughter Maeani Swain. She was born on May 27.

Jeffrey Ahn upon his graduation from the Hamden High School on Tuesday, June 13. He will be heading to RPI (Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute) for his college and he will be majoring in Chemistry.



Jeffrey Ahn received the Hamden Hero Award and the ceremony was held on Tuesday, June 6 at the Headquarters of the Board of Education in Hamden.



James Ahn upon his promotion to become a Lieutenant in the US Navy. The ceremony was held on Thursday, June 8 on the deck of the USS George H. W. Bush Aircraft Carrier in Norfolk, VA.



Church News

EDUCATION BREAKFAST SUNDAY was celebrated on June 4 in celebration of another Sunday School Year. **Our deep appreciation** is expressed to Sherri Willhelm for her dedication for the Sunday School. **Our deep appreciation** is also expressed to Paul Gwara, John DeFilippo, Paul

Gingras, and Vernon Grant for their hospitality and generosity for the whole congregation.

A SURPRISE PARTY was held right after the worship service on June 18 in celebration of **Jeffrey's graduation** from Hamden High School. There was lots of food and a beautiful graduation cake. A generous gift of love and encouragement was given to him! Jeffrey was truly surprised and grateful to God for the heartfelt support and care for him from our congregation! (More

photos on FaceBook)



Words of Thanks

Dear Church Family,
We would like to thank you for the very generous and helpful contribution to help pay for Adeline's MRI she needs to determine if she has a brain tumor. The support and love is greatly appreciated. Thank you again so much.
With love to all, The Muzynski Family

Dear Pastor Ahn & Church Family,
My family and I would like to thank you for the generous gift. I did offer the money to the kids, Melissa and Matthew gave it back to me to fix the car. Angela did use the money for an

Easter dress and shoes and a couple of other things. Thank you once again.
Sincerely,
Wendy Perzanowski & Family

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. 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, **August 8** at 7:00 pm. You may contact Kristen DeFilippo if you have any questions or suggestions.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES will meet Tuesday, **June 27** at 7:30 pm. Please contact John DeFilippo if you have any questions or suggestions.

July & August Birthdays

Joan White (7/1)	Wilfred Golding (7/4)
John DeFilippo (7/5)	David Brandl (7/8)
Rose Torres (7/11)	Joan Buckley (7/13)
Linda Muszynski (7/14)	Ann Golding (7/15)
Marilyn Housmann (7/18)	Diane Garland (7/21)
Michael Perzanowski (7/24)	Angela Perzanowski (7/25)
Matthew Perzanowski (7/26)	
Joseph Paquette (8/1)	Laurie Gingras (8/2)
Sophie Walters (8/2)	Jara Jungmann (8/2)
Jennifer Paquette (8/5)	Glenn Marston (8/13)
Joan Ginter (8/21)	

Anniversaries

Ted & Linda Muszynski (8/2/69)
 Phil & Jane Wargo (8/3/63)
 Soon Ahn & Amy Kang (8/5/1989)

Upcoming Events

Event/Committee	Date & Time
Worship returns to 10:00 am	July 2
House Warming	July 15, 12:00 pm
Chicken BBQ	Saturday, July 29 (5:00 pm - 7:00 pm)
Pulpit Exchange	Sunday, July 30 (Rev. Carol Bloom, Grace UMC in Southington)
Deadline for September Newsletter	August 1

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



VBS at the Grace UMC in Southington



Vacation Bible School is BACK!

SAVE THE DATE:

SUNDAY 6/25/23 TO THURSDAY 6/29/23

5:15 PM TO 7:45 PM

Kids from Pre-K to 8th Grade come blast off for one-of-a-kind Bible Adventure!

6th to 8th grade make great Cosmic Crew Leaders!

Music, Bible Stories, Imagination Stations

Dinner and snacks provided!

Cost \$30 per child (scholarships available)

Pre-registration is open until June 15th.

To register call or email below.

Grace United Methodist Church

121 Pleasant Street, Southington, CT 06489

graceumc_office@cox.net 860-628-6996



First United Methodist Church of Wallingford

Mailing address:

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Wallingford CT 06492

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