

United Methodist Church of Monroe



messenger

MARCH 2020

Peace Prayer of St. Francis



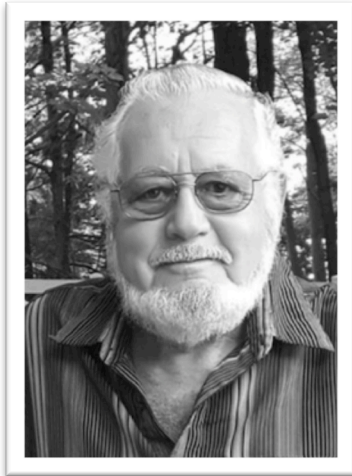
Lord, make me an instrument of your peace:
where there is hatred, let me sow love;
where there is injury, pardon;
where there is doubt, faith;
where there is despair, hope;
where there is darkness, light;
where there is sadness, joy.

O divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek
to be consoled as to console,
to be understood as to understand,
to be loved as to love.
For it is in giving that we receive,
it is in pardoning that we are pardoned,
and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life.

Amen.



WORSHIP TIME
9:15 AM
SUNDAY



In Memory of Arthur Eugene Beardsley III
June 8, 1936 – February 14, 2020

**PLEASE
CLOSE
THE
DOOR
ON YOUR
WAY OUT
OF THE BUILDING**

**GIVE IT AN EXTRA TUG
TO MAKE SURE IT LOCKS**

Seeking Coffee Hour Hosts

It's a wonderful way to support fellowship! Sign up using our new online SignUpGenius registration process -- visit our website and click on the coffee cup and you're ready to host a coffee hour! All of the basics are supplied including coffee, tea, sugar and paper goods. Coffee making instructions are in the kitchen. As host we ask that you make the coffee, heat the tea water, supply the creamer and juice and clean up. Snacks and sweets are not required unless you'd like to provide them. Please consider taking a Sunday and sign up today!

Let's Celebrate March!



03/01 Steven Moore
03/02 Daniel Florin
03/02 Griffin Reynolds
03/04 Brenda Pantalone
03/10 Tori Hagopian
03/12 Patti Early
03/15 Steve Wallace
03/25 Leah Brantley
03/27 Gail Mas
03/29 Patty Hornak



happy birthday



03/01 Tanya and Joe Lennon
03/20 Dotti and Lee Hossler

happy anniversary

Please submit additions and corrections to the birthday and anniversary list to the office at umc@umcmonroe.org or 203.268.8395. We don't want to miss anyone! Thanks!

COMMITTEE NOTES



Several Trustee projects have been addressed around the church:

1. Many projects around the church are being checked off!
2. Trees have been trimmed or removed based on the Ash Borer beetle damage from the last couple of years.
3. Outside lighting has been repaired and revamped by County Electric in Bridgeport.
4. The kitchen stove has been repaired by Rob at Service One - Food Service Equipment Repair – 203.333.7024.
5. Sippin Fuel will be removing the underground oil tank that services the main church and installing a new one (different location) very soon!
6. The land subdivision soil testing by Spath-Bjorklund Engineers should be happening any day now, and then we can hopefully get approval on the subdivision and get the property on the market.
7. If you have a key that is used in the church and have not already touched base with Dotti Hossler, please let her know if your key is working after testing it.
8. Cable Internet has been available before but now we have a direct install into the church. If you are a Spectrum customer, you can use Spectrum WiFi and use your login credentials to use the internet without affecting the church bandwidth. If you are not a Spectrum customer, you can use the mesh network UCMC. The password is "allarewelcome".

If you have an issue you would like to bring to the Trustees attention, please click the link below to submit an issue: <https://www.surveygizmo.com/s3/5476499/b34816d0849b>

Task Force Study (213)

The group met on Monday, February 24 to finalize the Church Assessment Report to the Bishop and District Superintendent (DS). The report includes some background of UMC Monroe, the current situation and recommendations. A Charge Conference with the DS present will be held (most likely after Easter) with all members of the church encouraged to attend. Information will be forthcoming from the report.



It's still not too late to hand in your pledge card for 2020. It helps the committee budget for the entire year. We thank all that have made the commitment to UMC Monroe with their monetary gifts and encourage everyone to do what they can to keep their pledges current. We are always looking for additional fundraisers to help with the general funds of our church. If you have an idea, please bring it forward to the Church Council.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Dress A Girl Around the World Sew-a-Thon

Saturday, March 7 - 9:30 – 1:00 pm
Monroe Congregational Church, 34 Church Street, Monroe

Registration: Contact Liz Skarzynski at 203.257.7174 or
DressAGirlSouthernCT@yahoo.com

UMCM Contacts: Ethel Abraham and Tanya Lennon



Daylight Saving Time begins Sunday, March 8

It's time to "spring forward" and move our clocks ahead one hour. Daylight Saving Time begins Sunday, March 8 at 2:00 am. Don't forget to change your clocks before you go to bed on Saturday night (March 7) and join us for church at 9:15 am Sunday morning!



Scout Sunday



Sunday, March 8, 2020 • 9:15 am

This year we honor both the Girl Scouts and the Boy Scouts on **Scout Sunday**.

If you are or were a Girl Scout or a Boy Scout, including leaders, past or present, we would love to have you participate in our church service (acolyte, greeter, usher or reader). If you are available and interested in participating in the service, please contact Rose Aiello. Please feel free to wear your uniform!

The Social Issues Discussion Group

Join us for a forum where concerned believers discuss their views on various social issues. The discussion is truly open with no agenda or curriculum to follow. Our next meeting is Sunday, March 15 at 10:30 am in Meeting Room 1. Moderator: David York.

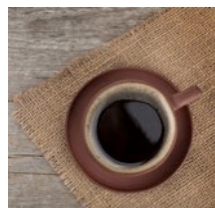


NEW DATE ADDED: Pizza With the Pastor



When:	Sunday, March 15
Time:	1:00 pm – 2:00 pm
Where:	Fellowship Hall
RSVP REQUIRED	Denise - 203.268.8395 or umc@umcmonroe.org

NOTE: Coffee Hour will take place after worship, as usual.



Coffee With the Pastor

Sunday, March 29 is a "5th Sunday of the Month" and Pastor Ed will remain at UMC Monroe after worship. Please join the Daytons for a cup of coffee and fellowship!

UPCOMING EVENTS

Weekly Prayer Service



Please join us for a weekly Prayer Service each Monday at Long Hill UMC, 6358 Main Street Trumbull.

Service begins at 9:45 am and will be led by Pastor Dayton. All are welcome!

Questions: Pastor Ed



Paper Shredding Event Fundraiser Saturday, May 9, 2020 9:00 am – 12:00 pm ... rain or shine!

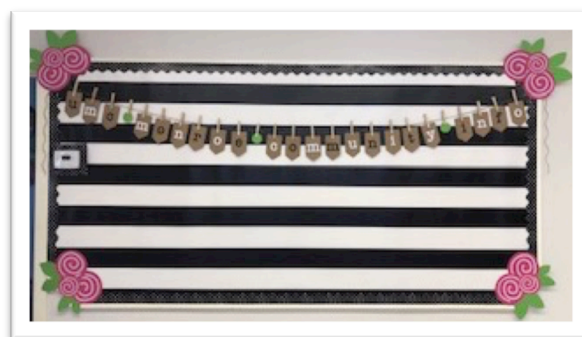
Mark your calendar and start organizing your papers! UMC Monroe's next paper shredding fundraiser is just around the corner -- please consider making our Paper Shredding Fundraiser part of your spring cleaning!

Are your personal papers stacking up with no time to shred them? If so, take advantage of the convenience and security of having your sensitive household and business records destroyed by the pros.

Postcards are available in the Narthex ... grab a few and spread the word! For more information, please visit our website or contact Bill Florin.

EXTRA! Community News!

We have a new community bulletin board in the fellowship hall! It's ready for all your information on any event or collection that's happening in Monroe or surrounding towns. We welcome you to post flyers or business cards or even items for sale – push-pins are available for posting (please do not tape or staple anything on the board). Now we can keep everyone informed of what's going on!



Bingo “Chips” for Wicke

Our friends at Bishop Wicke could always use additional milk/juice tops to use as markers for their infamous bingo games – they LOVE their bingo! If you buy gallon-size jugs of milk or juice and could donate the caps, we'll have a bowl in the Narthex for collection. Thanks, in advance, for your consideration!



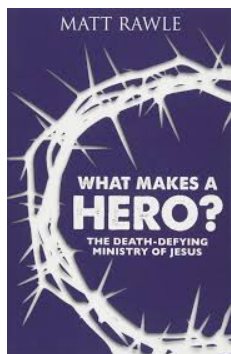


Holy Week Worship Schedule

Maundy Thursday	April 9	7:00 pm	UMC Monroe
Good Friday Cantata	April 10	7:30 pm	Long Hill UMC
Easter Sunday	April 12	9:15 am	UMC Monroe



Watch for more details about an ecumenical Easter Sunday Sunrise Service bright and early on Sunday, April 12!



What Makes a Hero? Bible Study

Our Lenten study continues! Morning sessions meet at 10:30 am at UMC Monroe in Meeting Room 2 and evening sessions meet at 7:00 pm at Long Hill UMC (6358 Main Street, Trumbull). All are welcome – please join us!

Questions: Pastor Ed

Dates:

Thursdays, March 5, 12, 19 and 26

Lenten Fish Fry Dinners

First United Methodist Church of Shelton (188 Rocky Rest Road, Shelton) invites you to their 18th Annual Lenten Fish Fry Dinners. Dinners are held each Friday in Lent **February 28 – April 3 from 5:30 pm – 7:00 pm**. They're serving up cod (fried or baked), potatoes, pasta in marinara sauce, homemade coleslaw, dessert and beverages. No reservations needed. First come first serve, dine in or take out!



\$16 for adults, \$14 for seniors (60+) and \$6 for Children 12 and under.

Contact the church office at 203.929.3537 for more details or visit their website at www.umcshelton.org. Proceeds will support the church's ministries and missions.

GET INVOLVED



Generation Bridge

Calling all who want to be involved! We will be running an *Active Adult Health and Wellness Expo* that can be used as a fundraiser for UMC Monroe and/or Long Hill OR MORE UMC's in the area. We're looking for help in coordinating some volunteers and fundraising can be set up where funds are shared with churches that help drive sales to vendors and sponsors. The event will be on September 13, 2020 at the Insports Center in Trumbull. If you are interested in getting involved you can contact Brian Sherwood (briansherwood@sherwoodenterprises.co) or RoseAnne Homola (roseannh123@gmail.com).

We would also like to organize a couple of small events in the church as fundraisers including a pre-Mother's Day event and Father's Day event. In order to make these happen successfully in terms of bringing the community to our church AND potentially raising funds, we'd need to get some volunteers to help brainstorm about the event(s) and be willing to help out. Please contact Brian Sherwood (briansherwood@sherwoodenterprises.co) about these ideas if you are interested in learning more.

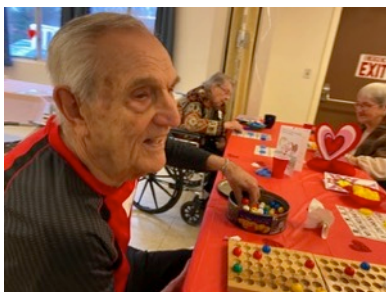


Bishop Wicke Valentine's Day Luncheon

On Tuesday, February 11, 2020 we hosted the annual Wicke luncheon at our church. Residents from the Bishop Wicke Rehab Center bussed themselves over to the church in order to celebrate Valentine's Day with us. We had a wonderful time, eating well, talking and playing some competitive games of BINGO.

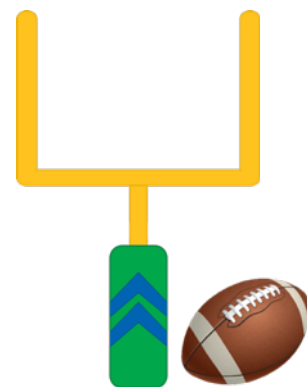
Many in our congregation and outside helped and attended this event that might not have happened if it hadn't been for Marsha Cohen's knowledge of the event and desire to make sure it happened again.

Thanks to everyone who organized, baked, decorated, served, attended etc. The spirit filled fellowship hall as the Wicke residents and our parishioners all enjoyed the day.





The Youth Group did a fantastic job on our *Souper Bowl of Caring* this year! We're excited to share that they collected \$668 in monetary donations and 105 food items! The monetary donations will be split between the Monroe Food Pantry and Spooner House with all the food items going to Monroe Food Pantry.



Our Youth Group will deliver the food donation on Thursday, March 26 at 4:00 pm. We will meet at the food pantry and can organize rides if there is a need.

While there, our youth will help process in all the donations they collected by weighing them, checking expiration dates, etc. and then we will have a tour to learn more about the work they do.

Please RSVP to Tanya regarding your youth's participation.





UMC MONROE YOUTH NEWS

Confirmation ion 2020

Weekly Confirmation classes began on Sunday, February 23 and will run through Sunday, March 29. The meetings are scheduled from 5:00 pm – 6:30 pm with session details to follow. Please note that the meeting location alternates between UMC Monroe and Long Hill UMC each week.

Confirmation Meetings:

Sunday, March 1	Long Hill UMC
Sunday, March 8	UMC Monroe
Sunday, March 15	Long Hill UMC
Sunday, March 22	UMC Monroe
Sunday, March 29	Long Hill UMC

Service Project/Field Trip:

Saturday, February 29	Spooner House Service Project 4:30 pm
Saturday, March 7	John Street UMC Church, NYC details to follow!

Contact: Pastor Ed



All high school youth welcome!

St. Michael's Episcopal Church, Naugatuck

Friday, April 26 – Sunday, April 28

An Emmaus weekend offers young people of high school age a short course in the Christian way of life. Those who come to an Emmaus weekend experience Christian community and a time of reflection and insight into their own lives. There is uplifting music, a chance to meet and get to know new friends, opportunity to know oneself, others, and God on a deeper level, and to share the joyful and loving relationship that is central to the Christian experience. If you or someone you know is interested in learning more about Emmaus, please contact Patti or Bill.

**Friends are *always welcome to our youth events* –
no need for them to belong to our church!!**

Remember during the winter season ... *Register for inclement weather alerts!*



Enroll for text and/or email alerts if you would like to receive notice when UMCM is closed or activities cancelled. Go to our website, click on "Resources", then "Inclement Weather", then "NBC CT Storm Alerts" in the last sentence. It will take you directly to the enrollment page. For breaking news: (1) Tune in to NBC WVIT, CBS WFSB or ABC WTNH; (2) Visit our website at www.umcmonroe.org, or (3) Check our Facebook page @umcmonroe. Be prepared!



UMC Monroe and Pawling UMC kick off the 17th Annual Appalachia Service Project as we plan our 2020 trip!

Appalachia Service Project (ASP) Adult Leader Meeting

An adult leader meeting is scheduled on **Wednesday, March 4 at Pawling UMC** (2 Dutcher Avenue, Pawling, NY). Dinner will be provided for anyone who arrives by 6:00 pm. This meeting is for Adult volunteers who are committed to travel with us, or are considering travelling! Please come if interested or invite others.

Appalachia Service Project (ASP) General Meeting

We will have a **General meeting on Sunday, March 8 at Pawling UMC** (2 Dutcher Avenue, Pawling, NY) at 12:30 pm. All are welcome. Youth – Invite your friends! You are our only advertisement! If you cannot attend, please send a representative. We will be giving important information about fund raising, dates for activities, and travel information.

ASP Dates: **Saturday, July 18 through Saturday, July 25.**

Location: **TBD**

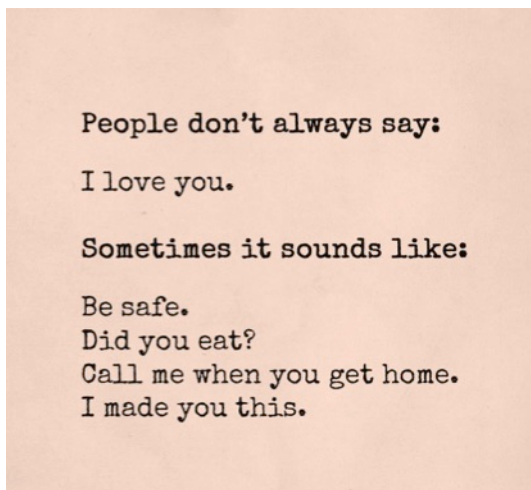
OVERVIEW: Appalachian Service inspires Project “ASP”

A Christian ministry that inspires hope and service through volunteer home repair and replacement in Central Appalachia. Open to anyone at least 14 years old (13 year olds may attend if they have completed 8th grade).

UMC Monroe Contact: Wayne Epstein

ASP Youth Mission Project

Making homes warmer, safer, and drier



A thank you note was received from Pastor Mark and Janice for the Home Depot gift card. They apologized for the delay in responding but were very appreciative of the gift.

Dotti Hossler, SPPRC

Prayer Concerns



Kathy's mom, Pat – medical tests
Cheryl Curry, friend of Smith Family - passed from cancer
Family of Richard Tomac, Janet Morris' cousin – suffered heart attack
Gail's daughter's friend, Patrick - illness
Beardsley family on passing of Art
Rose's co-worker, Matt - starting chemo for pancreatic cancer; new spots on liver
Janet's bandmate, Jim - nearing end of life
Paul's friend, Grace - broken hip
Anita's ex-husband, John - home but continuing rehab
Jeff York - infection
"Baby Jack" and the Goode Family; Jack is recovering from open heart surgery
Family and friends of Brittany Scheibel on her passing
Family and friends of Lily Pirulli on her passing (young Monroe woman who died on Sunday in car crash on 110)
Janet's friend, Jen - medical
Anita's daughter, Donna - personal struggles
Gail's great granddaughter, 8-month old Raelyn – continued healing from viral infection
Rebecca's grandson, Gavin
Claudia's sister's mother-in-law, Judy - cancer
Sheryl's dad, Buck - medical issues
Several friends of Claudia Wallace with breast cancer
Claudia's brother, Richard - medical concerns
Claudia Wallace's mom, Marianne - leukemia
Bob Pantalone and Brenda, Josh
Gail's niece, Suzette - medical issues
Neil Chaudhary's mom, Yvonne
Roger Grant
Lynn Abbott's grandson, Tyson
Lauren and her mother, Linda
Lynn Gregory's grandson, Carson
Gail's sister, Joan - COPD
Joe Lennon's brother, Michael – cancer treatments
Sue Simmons' brother, Jeff - alcohol addiction
RoseAnne's dad, Ken
Marilyn Jones
Sheryl's mom - seizures

Dexton
Pastor Martha's father - Rev. Richard Rice
Nancy Rice
Fromm's friend, Radovan Frzop
Vivian's brother, Wayne - Parkinson's
Dotti Hossler's sister, Loretta
Delores Ovesny
Caleb
Ben Abercrombie - football player with broken neck
Dotti Hossler's brother, Roger
Roy G - child with serious epilepsy
Friend of Billy Schmalkuche - Jill - long-term rehab
Tom Boomershire
Robert Ellis, co-worker of Claudia Wallace - cancer
Sue Simmons' friend, Debbie - MS
York's daughter-in-law - Lori
Jodi Kles, Sheryl's cousin - living with rare form of cancer

Abused children
Our Bishop and all the United Methodist Churches
Military personnel
Unemployed
First responders, firemen, policemen
Caregivers
Those who do not have anyone to pray for them
Christians around the world persecuted for their faith
Drug epidemic – addiction and deaths
Refugees
Unspoken burdens that reside upon people's hearts
Youth - effects of social media and those being bullied and increasing suicides
Wisdom for world leaders
Unity and peace around the world
Those suffering from depression and/or loss
Mental health issues and associated stigma
"Sandwich" generation
Recovery efforts for those affected by natural disasters
Emmaus Ministry

If you would like to add a person to our prayer list, or to receive a weekly copy of the joys and concerns email prayerrequest@umcmornoe.org, call the office or leave your request in the collection plate. Names will remain on the prayer list for 3 weeks. If you would like your name or that of a relative or friend to stay on the list longer, please contact the office.



REMINDER: The deadline to submit information to Denise (umc@umcmmonroe.org) for our monthly newsletter is the 15th of each month. When making your submission, please include all content and provide a contact name. Any submission received after the deadline is not guaranteed publication and may be deferred to the next month. Thank you!

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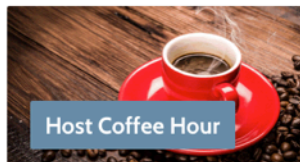
Ring in the New Year with Joy!



A welcoming family of caring Christians dedicated to joyful service to all God's people. Share in the Journey.



Prayer Request



Host Coffee Hour

amazon

Shop AmazonSmile

Visit us ANYTIME at www.umcmonroe.org!



Flags and Cell Phones

If you have an old, worn flag that you need to dispose of properly, you can do so right at the church. Just place it in the collection box located in the narthex. The Marine Corp League and VFW in Stratford continuously provide this service to the public.

Used cell phones can also be recycled for our service men and women and left in the same box.

United Methodist Church of Monroe

Mar 2020 (Eastern Time - New York)

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>1</p> <p>9:15am - Communion</p> <p>9:15am - Worship Service</p> <p>5pm - Confirmation Class @</p>	<p>2</p> <p>9:45am - Weekly Prayer</p> <p>7pm - SPARC Meeting @</p>	<p>3</p> <p>11:30am - MM: Missions</p>	<p>4</p> <p>6:45pm - Appalachia Service</p>	<p>5</p> <p>10:30am - What Makes a Hero?</p> <p>7pm - What Makes a Hero?</p>	<p>6</p> <p>5pm - Cooking Class @</p> <p>5:30pm - Lenten Fish Fry</p>	<p>7</p> <p>Confirmation Class: John</p> <p>9:30am - Dress a Girl</p> <p>2pm - Cooking Class @</p>
<p>8</p> <p>9:15am - Scout Sunday @</p> <p>9:15am - Worship Service</p> <p>12:30pm - Appalachia</p> <p>5pm - Confirmation Class @</p>	<p>9</p> <p>9:45am - Weekly Prayer</p>	<p>10</p>	<p>11</p>	<p>12</p> <p>10:30am - What Makes a Hero?</p> <p>7pm - What Makes a Hero?</p>	<p>13</p> <p>5pm - Cooking Class @</p> <p>5:30pm - Lenten Fish Fry</p>	<p>14</p>
<p>15</p> <p>9:15am - Worship Service</p> <p>10:15am - St: Social Issues</p> <p>1pm - Pizza with the Pastor</p> <p>5pm - Confirmation Class @</p>	<p>16</p> <p>9:45am - Weekly Prayer</p>	<p>17</p>	<p>18</p> <p>7:30pm - Great Oaks Farm</p>	<p>19</p> <p>10:30am - What Makes a Hero?</p> <p>7pm - What Makes a Hero?</p>	<p>20</p> <p>5pm - Cooking Class @</p> <p>5:30pm - Lenten Fish Fry</p>	<p>21</p>
<p>22</p> <p>9:15am - Worship Service</p> <p>5pm - Confirmation Class @</p>	<p>23</p> <p>9:45am - Weekly Prayer</p>	<p>24</p>	<p>25</p>	<p>26</p> <p>10:30am - What Makes a Hero?</p> <p>4pm - Youth Group Field</p> <p>7pm - What Makes a Hero?</p>	<p>27</p> <p>5pm - Cooking Class @</p> <p>5:30pm - Lenten Fish Fry</p>	<p>28</p>
<p>29</p> <p>9:15am - Worship Service</p> <p>10:30am - Coffee with the</p> <p>5pm - Confirmation Class @</p>	<p>30</p> <p>9:45am - Weekly Prayer</p>	<p>31</p>	<p>1</p>	<p>2</p> <p>HOLD: Rose @ All rooms</p>	<p>3</p> <p>HOLD: Rose @ All rooms</p> <p>5:30pm - Lenten Fish Fry</p>	<p>4</p> <p>HOLD: Rose @ All rooms</p>

** Please visit our website for the most up-to-date information about our activities. **