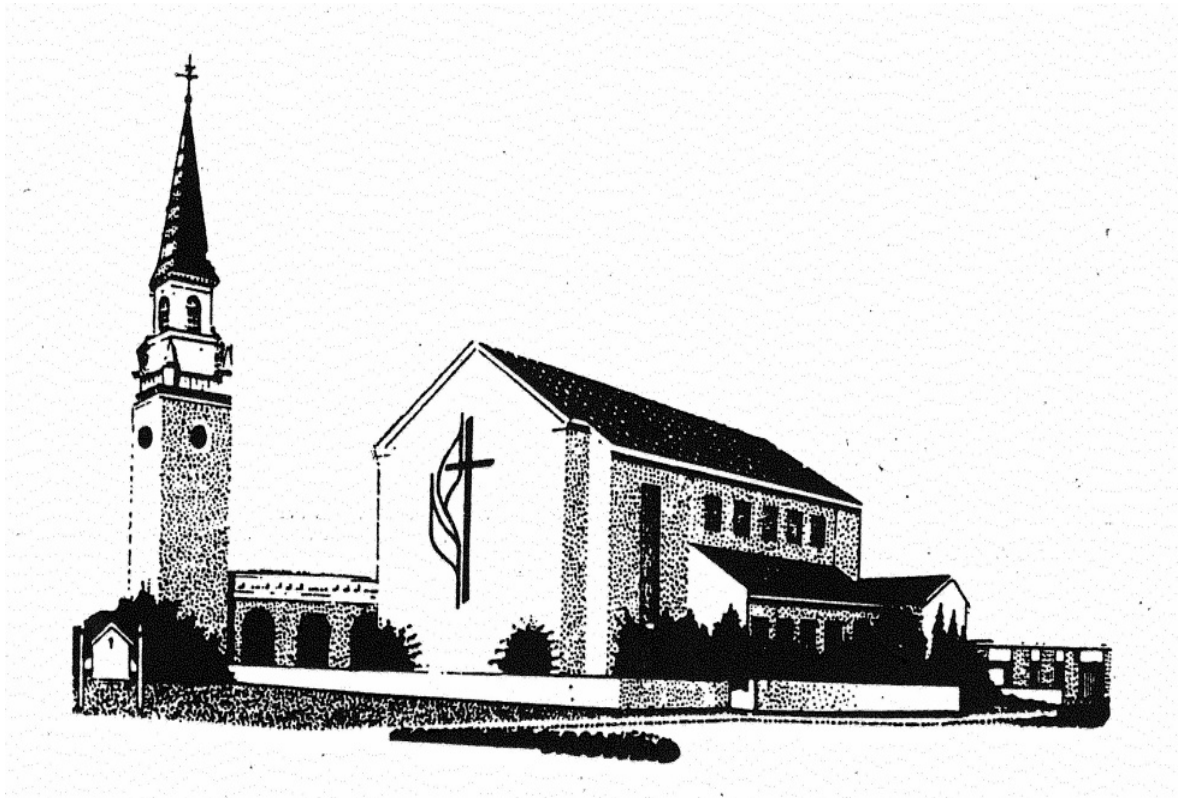


THE GOOD NEWS
From The
Stratford United Methodist Church

2600 MAIN STREET • STRATFORD, CT 06615-5893
SUMC phone: 203-375-5851 ~ fax: 203-375-6890

SUMC & Good News email: secretary@sumcct.org
SUMC website: www.sumcct.org

FEBRUARY 2025



The Rev. Suhee Kim, Pastor
Affiliated Pastors: Rev. Caroly Gibson,
Rev. George Hilton, Rev. James Stinson
Chris Muller, Director of Music
Beth Buckmir, Preschool Director
Church Office: Beth Sullivan, Secretary
Worship Technology: Jayden Zeleznik

February Worship Schedule

February 2nd

10:00 a.m. Worship Service only; no 8:15 Chapel Service
No Sunday School

February 9th

8:15 a.m. Chapel Service and 10:00 a.m. Worship Service
Souper Bowl of Caring and Scouting Sunday
Sunday School meets

February 16th

8:15 a.m. Chapel Service and 10:00 a.m. Worship Service
No Sunday School - President's Weekend

February 23rd

8:15 a.m. Chapel Service and 10:00 a.m. Worship Service
Sunday School meets and Confirmation Class #2

the Sunday Service live stream begins
at 10:00 a.m.

Listen By Phone

~ Call (646) 558-8656 before 10 AM

~ Enter Meeting ID: 203 375 5851

~ Enter Password: 123



Here is the Sunday School News!

Souper Bowl of Caring Sunday, February 9th



The SUMC Sunday School is hosting their annual Souper Bowl of Caring food drive to collect food items for the Sterling House Food Pantry. Canned goods will be accepted on Sundays, and soup will be provided for all to enjoy during Coffee Hour on February 9th in the All-Purpose Room.



Heifer is Coming!

Join us March 2nd to kick off another year of Heifer!

Sunday School Schedule

February 2nd - No Sunday School

February 9th - Souper Bowl of Caring Event

February 16th - No Sunday School - President's Weekend

February 23rd - Sunday School/Confirmation Class #2

March 2nd - Sunday School Heifer Kick Off Event

March 9th - Sunday School/Confirmation Class #3

March 15th - Confirmation Class #4 8:30 - 12

March 16th - Sunday School/Confirmation Class #5

March 23rd - Sunday School

March 30th - Sunday School/Confirmation Class

Confirmation Class News

Pastor Abby is leading a Confirmation Class this Winter for students ages 10 - 17! Please pray for our confirmands and join us April 6th during the 10am service to support them as they become members of the church. This year's class includes:

Kaylani Alicea

Christopher Knight

Isaiah Leon

Zavier Leon

Kyra McLean

Theo Robertson

Class Schedule

Jan 26th, 10:00 a.m.

Class #1: The Bible & Jesus

Mentor Meet and Greet during Coffee Hour

Feb 23rd, 10 a.m.

Class #2: John Wesley and the Growth of Methodism

March 9th, 10 a.m.

Class #3: Methodism: the Quadrilateral, Grace, and Perfection

March 15th, 8:30 a.m.

Class #4: Discipleship

Serve alongside mentors at Neighborhood Breakfast and
fellowship together

March 16th, 10 a.m.

Class #5: United Methodist Church

March 30th, 10:00 a.m.

Class #6: Now What?

April 6th, 10:00 a.m.

Confirmation Sunday

When the carols
have been stilled,
When the star-topped tree
is taken down,
When family and friends
are gone home,
When we are back to our schedules

THE WORK OF CHRISTMAS BEGINS

To welcome the refugee,
To heal a broken planet,
To feed the hungry,
To build bridges of trust,
not walls of fear,
To share our gifts,
To seek justice and peace
for all people,
To bring Christ's light
to the world.

Michael Dougherty



Neighborhood Breakfast

The Neighborhood Breakfast is **every third Saturday at SUMC**. Eat-in breakfast will be served from 8:30am to 10am. Guests will be greeted at the back parking lot entrance. We would greatly appreciate your help serving breakfast, donating items, or your time, if you can. If you are interested in helping, send a message to missions@sumcct.org.

Breakfast will be Saturday, February 15th.

**Please donate breakfast items such as fruit, granola bars, muffins, yogurt, etc.
Thank you for your donations!**

Toiletry Items are Being Accepted!

Our team has been sharing donated toiletry items with guests who attend our monthly Neighborhood Breakfast. These items are greatly appreciated, and we could use more donations to offer at breakfasts in the months ahead.

There is a donation bin located in the narthex, and both men's and women's items are being accepted. We will gladly accept any size item (full size, samples, etc.). Donations suggestions include (but are not limited to): soap, shampoo/conditioner, toothpaste/toothbrush, deodorant, razors/shaving cream, lotion, tissues, and feminine products.

Golden Hill UMC Community Supper - Volunteers Needed

The Golden Hill United Methodist Church in downtown Bridgeport is one of several Bridgeport churches that provide evening meals for those in need on different evenings of the week. Golden Hill hosts a meal every Wednesday. They provide the food, the location, and the planning. Others volunteer to provide the labor.

Our upcoming turn at Golden Hill UMC Community Supper is February 19th.

A cook and about 3 additional volunteers will be needed to start around 2:30 - 3:00 to prepare the meals. One to two volunteers will be needed to stay and help pack the meals from 5:30 on. Please contact Pat Knebel (pknebel@yahoo.com) if you are interested in volunteering.

The Lord's Kitchen

The next Lord's Kitchen will be on Monday, March 17th.



THE MISSIONS COMMITTEE WOULD LIKE TO THANK THE CRAFTY LADIES FOR THE GIFTS THEY ASSEMBLED FOR OUR FOLKS AT THE NEIGHBORHOOD BREAKFAST. THEY WERE VERY MUCH APPRECIATED.

AND THANKS TO ALL THE ELVES THAT MADE THIS DECEMBER BREAKFAST SPECIAL.



ARTS & CRAFTS WILL BE MEETING ON WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 12TH AT ONE O'CLOCK IN THE ALL-PURPOSE ROOM. WILL BE WORKING ON A CRAFT PROJECT VIRGIA WARE HAS PREPARED FOR US. LOOKING FORWARD TO SEEING YOU THERE FOR A TIME OF SHARING AND FELLOWSHIP. ALL ARE WELCOME SO BRING A FRIEND.

**Jimmy Carter 39th President
1977_ 1981**

**WE CAN CHOOSE TO ALLEVATE
SUFFERING, WE CAN CHOOSE TO
WORK TOGETHER FOR PEACE.
WE CAN MAKE THESE CHANGES
---AND WE MUST**



Bible Study meets every Tuesday at 2:00 p.m. on Zoom.

Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/2160664239?>

pwd=K3U5b21WS0duQ2VIOXRQM0gvRUtPdZ09&omn=86183795830

Meeting ID: 216 066 4239 / Passcode: 06614



Choir News

**We are always looking for members for the Choir and
Grace Notes Handbell Choir.**

**If you or someone you know loves to sing or can read music,
or would like to learn to play the handbells, please come join us!**

If you cannot commit to the entire year, we always welcome singers for the Lenten Season for which rehearsals will start on February 27th. through Easter. On Palm Sunday, and Easter we will be presenting the cantata "Worthy is the Lamb" by Lloyd Larson. This is a very special cantata that spans from the Hosannas of Palm Sunday, sorrow of Holy Week and Joy of Easter.

**If you play an instrument, we would love it if you
shared your talents with us in worship. An audition is required.**

**Anyone who has questions or is interested can speak to Chris after worship or email
music.director@sumcct.org.**

Required rehearsal times are flexible. Rehearsals are on Thursday evenings, but we rehearse several weeks ahead so missing a rehearsal here and there is not an issue.

Support our Music Program

**If you would like to support the music program, donations can be made to the Church with a note/notation intending their direct support of this important ministry.
Your support allows us to hire extra musicians and singers for special events such as our seasonal Cantatas (Palm Sunday and Christmas) and Easter services.**

**Thank you!
*Chris Muller, Director of Music***

United Methodists see loss, offer relief as wildfires rage



Altadena United Methodist Church in Altadena, Calif., is reduced to rubble after the Palisades and Eaton fires swept through southern California. Experts warn that Los Angeles is not yet out of danger as the fires remain uncontained. Photo by the Rev. Garth Gilliam, district superintendent, California-Pacific Conference.

UMCOR is meeting urgent needs through support of the California-Pacific Annual Conference's immediate relief efforts. Initially, we've provided emergency relief funding for food, water and essential supplies for evacuees and to bolster local volunteer efforts. And we'll continue to offer support through long-term recovery.

Join us in supporting the people of Los Angeles. Together, we can be a beacon of hope for families who have lost so much in this disaster.

Nichols United Women in Faith Luncheon

Wednesday, February 12th

All men and women to our February Luncheon on Wednesday, February 12th in the Fellowship Hall. Carol Steinberg is our returning Game Master and will lead us all in some fun and entertaining games. Yes, there will be prizes!

Schedule of Events

11:30 a.m. - Social Time
12:00 p.m. General Meeting and Devotion
12:15 p.m. - Luncheon
1:00 p.m. - Program

Cost

\$10.00 Per Person
Place setting will be provided

If you are not already on our call list, you may make reservations by calling Brenda Braun at:
(203) 375-1257

All are welcome and encouraged to attend. Come share in the fun, fellowship, and great food!

Weather Reminder

In the event of snow, we follow the Trumbull Public Schools snow cancellation schedule.



Bible Word Search

Books of the Old Testament

R H A G G A I G J O N A H E I S A I A H
E C C L E S I A S T E S A U H S O J F H
S E G D U J E W E S T H E R S G N I K O
T B N O M O L O S F O G N O S M B Y C S
A M O S L O Z Y M O N O R E T U E D O E
W K K K E K R V O Y H T U R H A Q B R A
K U B Y U P F K I B L Q V D A N I E L A
L K O C M S S K H I A E V E W I F O M Z
A K J L A E A H J K K D V P X W I K Y N
M A K S S L M A P U C D I I F O C I M Q
E B I B C C U I P D H V L A T Z D F C S
N A N R J I E R H H G A O U H I C U I Z
T H J E E N L A A A J X M N F H C S S N
A M S V R O I H I C O K N A T V E U K A
T L M O E R S C M I E A U T L N C C S H
I T L R M H W E E M L R M Q E A J M C U
O K A P I C E Z H I X Z B G F I C E I M
N E S H A F E I E B N E E Z V L X H E M
S M P S H G Y H N H V V R Q U A G H I Y
W N H A I N A H P E Z S S E Z E K I E L

AMOS
CHRONICLES
DANIEL
DEUTERONOMY
ECCLESIASTES
ESTHER
EXODUS
EZEKIEL
EZRA
GENESIS
HABAKKUK
HAGGAI
HOSEA

ISAIAH
JEREMIAH
JOB
JOEL
JONAH
JOSHUA
JUDGES
KINGS
LAMENTATIONS
LEVITICUS
MALACHI
MICAH
NAHUM

NEHEMIAH
NUMBERS
OBADIAH
PROVERBS
PSALMS
RUTH
SAMUEL
SAMUEL
SONG OF SOLOMON
ZECHARIAH
ZEPHANIAH

