

**Cancellations and Changes**—it's that time of year for weather related cancellations and/or schedule changes. Please tune into WFSB (CBS Channel 3), WTNH (ABC Channel 8), or check our church website [www.newmilfordumc.org](http://www.newmilfordumc.org) in case of inclement weather.

**Meetings & Opportunities this week:**

**TODAY** at 9:30 am Traditional Worship in Sanctuary  
 at 10:00 am Children's Sunday School  
 at 10:30 am Adult Sunday School  
 at 11:30 am Contemporary Worship in Sanctuary  
 at 2:30 pm Youth Group in Fellowship Hall

**Mon., Feb. 23** at 10:30 am Tai Chi in Fellowship Hall  
 at 6:00 pm Open Door Band in Sanctuary  
 at 7:00 pm Wesley Group in Conference Room

**Tues., Feb. 24** at 4:00 pm Girl Scouts 40213 in Fellowship Hall  
 at 6:00 pm Safe Sanctuary Training in Fellowship Hall  
 at 7:00 pm Church Council in Conference Room

**Wed., Feb. 25** at 5:30 pm Worship Meeting in Conference Room  
 at 7:00 pm Lenten Book Study in Sanctuary  
 at 7:00 pm Boy Scout Troop 31 in Fellowship Hall

**Thurs, Feb. 26** at 3:00 pm "Our Daily Bread" in Food  
 at 3:30 pm Confirmation in Library  
 at 5:45 pm Bells Practice in Sanctuary  
 at 7:00 pm Choir Practice in Sanctuary

**Fri., Feb. 27** at 6:00 pm Girl Scout Troop 40236 in Fellowship Hall

**Sat., Feb. 28** at 9:00 am Girl Scout Leader's Training in FH  
 at 3:00 pm Girl Scout Cookie Distribution in Narthex  
 at 7:00 pm Family Game Night in Fellowship Hall

**Sun., Mar. 1** Parish Nurse Blood Pressure Checks  
 at 8:30 am "Not Just Eggs" in Fellowship Hall  
 at 9:30 am Traditional Worship Service  
 at 10:00 am Children's Sunday School  
 at 10:30 am Adult Sunday School  
 at 11:30 am Contemporary Worship Service  
 at 5:00 pm Girl Scout Cookie Distribution in Narthex

Monday - Friday at noon AA meeting in Fellowship Hall

To view the most recent calendar, visit our website—  
[www.newmilfordumc.org/calendar.html](http://www.newmilfordumc.org/calendar.html)

**9:30 a.m. Ushers** — Jim and Debra Waldorf  
**Liturgist**— Carol Muska  
**11:30 a.m. Usher** —The Martin Family



**The Open Door**  
**Contemporary Worship**  
**11:30 am**

...in a religion born in a barn,  
 an open door goes without saying

song 52 "you shine"  
 song 18 "come, now is the time to worship"

welcome & announcements

passing the peace

song 45 "love you so much"

contemplative moment

song 15 "your unfailing love"

**old testament lesson** genesis 9:8-17  
*page 7 in the old testament in your pew Bible.*

**gospel lesson** mark 1:9-15  
*page 34 in the new testament in your pew Bible.*  
 the word of God for the people of God.  
**thanks be to God.**

presentation of the offerings

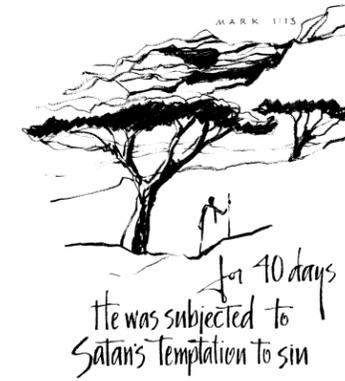
children's message

message "discovering the rebel Jesus" rev. paul a. fleck

joys & concerns

song 82 "i will follow"  
 song 14 "sing for joy"

sending forth



**The Service of Worship**  
 New Milford United Methodist Church  
 68 Danbury Road  
 New Milford, CT 06776  
[www.newmilfordumc.org](http://www.newmilfordumc.org)  
 860-354-4596

Rev. Paul A. Fleck, Pastor  
 Sandy Lybe, Music Minister  
 Brinna Kolitz, Youth Leader

*First Sunday in Lent*

*Sunday, February 22, 2015 at 9:30 am*

*You are invited to worship with us in the quiet of prayer, in the joy of song, and in the desire to grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. Part of our mission is to be a place for all people. All are welcome here! Whatever your gender, age, race, religious background, economic status, sexual orientation or condition of ableness, we greet you as a beloved child of God.*

**ENTRANCE AND PRAISE**

**Prelude**

**Announcements**

**Processional** "Down By the Jordan" LOBE DEN HERREN  
**Hymn #3045**

**Call to Worship**

We are gathered to worship our God.  
**Send your Spirit upon us.**  
 We come from many places, with many burdens.  
**Send you Spirit upon us.**  
 We turn our hearts to you, O God.  
**Send your Spirit upon us,**  
**and make us your beloved family.**

**Prayer for Illumination**

We come broken.  
**This is a story of hope.**  
 We come fearful.  
**This is a story of peace.**  
 We come cynical.  
**This is a story of liberation.**  
 We come empty.  
**List for the story of life.**

**Old Testament Lesson**

*Page 7 in the Old Testament in your pew Bible.*

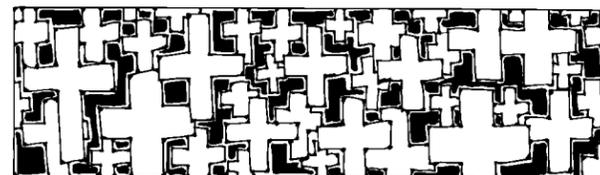
*Please stand as you are able for the Gospel readings.*

**Gospel Lesson**

*Page 34 in the New Testament in your pew Bible.*

Genesis 9:8-17

Mark 1:9-15



**First Sunday**  
 in Lent

The Word of God for the people of God.

**Thanks be to God.**

*All Sit.*

## CHILDREN'S CHURCH

*The children are invited to come forward and sit at the chancel with the pastor as the congregation sings the first verse of Hymn 191, "Jesus Loves Me."*

**Children's Sermon**

**The Lord's Prayer**

## OFFERING

**Invitation to Offering**

**Offertory**

*Please stand for the Doxology*

**Presentation**

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;**

**Praise God, all creatures here below;**

**Praise God above, ye heavenly host;**

**Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

**Offering Prayer**

*All Sit.*

Anthem "Lord, Speak to Me" SEWELL

*The children are invited to go out to Sunday School after the Anthem.*

**Prayer**

## RESPONSES

*Please stand as you are able for the hymn.*

**Hymn #252** "When Jesus Came to Jordan" COMPLAINER

**Morning Prayer**

*Joys and concerns are lifted before God and the congregation.*

**Pastoral Prayer**

**Prayer of Confession**

**God of the rainbow,  
you made a covenant with all creatures,  
promising life and hope.**

**God of pathways,  
you show us how we should walk.**

**Yet we forget our connection with one another  
and think that we are the center of the universe.**

**We wander from your paths of truth  
into paths of deceit and pride.**

**Forgive us and lead us back  
into the arms of your love. Amen.**

## Words of Assurance

God is merciful and full of steadfast love.

God will not forget us.

God will wash us clean,

and lead us on paths of steadfast love and faithfulness.

## Passing the Peace

Jesus calls us to repent and draw near to him, to share the realm of God and the peace that passes all understanding.

May the peace of Christ be with you always.

**May the peace of Christ be with you always.**

*During Passing of the Peace we ask, during cold and flu season, that you greet your neighbor verbally.*

*The congregation joins in repeating Psalm 19:14*

Let the words of my mouth,

**and the meditation of my heart,**

**be acceptable in your sight, Lord,**

**my strength and my redeemer.**

**Sermon** "Discovering the Rebel Jesus" Rev. Paul A. Fleck

*Please stand, if you are able, to sing the hymn.*

**Hymn #525** "We'll Understand It Better By and By" BY AND BY

## SENDING FORTH

## JOYS AND CONCERNS

*our prayers are with:*

- Lynn Hayes, who broke a rib after falling on the ice.
- Bill Phillips, who is ill with pneumonia.
- Harry, friend of Ralph Williams III, who had a quadruple bypass surgery and is having a difficult recovery.
- Adrienne Kern's friend, Scott J., as he deals with health concerns for him and his family.
- Bonnie Knapp's sister-in-law, Linda, who is experiencing kidney problems.
- Terri Hudak's cousin, Julie Spence in Virginia, who is battling cancer.
- Terri Hudak's aunt in California who has been diagnosed with breast cancer and will have surgery February 2nd.
- The Vivona family as they grieve the loss of Ben.
- Jeanne Johnson, friend of Laurel Partrick, who has been diagnosed with liver cancer.
- Steve Bowers, who is now on dialysis and has been added to the transplant list.
- Anne Meehan's nephew, Scott, whose brain tumor was found to be malignant, but treatable.
- Roberta Buddle's niece, Cindy, who is undergoing chemotherapy.
- Roberta Buddle's niece, Wendy (Cindy's sister), who had a double mastectomy.
- Laurel Partrick's cousin, Cynthia, is facing her third recurrence of cancer.

- Emily Nixon's cousin, who has been diagnosed with cancer.
- Marlene Davis' son, who is undergoing chemotherapy.
- Kay Jones' niece, Sherri, whose cancer has returned.
- Jan and Gene Parsons' friend, Brad, whose cancer has returned.
- Sue Sterling's cousin, Mary, who has lung cancer.

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## Our Life in Community

**For more information about any item listed below, please contact the Church Office at 860-354-4596 or office@newmilfordumc.org**

**Meet and Greet**—Join us for a meet and greet with the new director of The Education Center, Kristin Austin, **TODAY**, between services and during Coffee Hour.

## Lenten Activities

**Lenten Study Book: *Renegade Gospel*** -- Jesus didn't come to start a religion. The rebel Jesus came with a renegade gospel to start a revolution. Learn what it means to not just believe in Jesus but truly follow him. Join the "Off the Track" Sunday School class throughout Lent (beginning today) as they engage in this challenging study. Cost of the books is \$10; you can purchase yours via cash or check to NMUMC and by turning that into the Church Office. Scholarships are available.

**Lenten Book Study: *Renegade Gospel* with Pastor Paul**—During Lent, "The Mix" will be replaced with a Book Study discussing *Renegade Gospel*. The first meeting will be Wednesday, February 25th at 7:00 p.m. in the Conference Room. Please let the Church Office know (860-354-4596 or office@newmilfordumc.org) if you're planning to attend and if you need a book.

**Safe Sanctuary Training** will be held Tuesday, February 24th at 6:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. Please plan to attend if you have not previously attended and plan to work with the children or youth of NMUMC.

**Calling All New and Returning Church Leaders!** On Saturday, February 28 from 9-11 a.m. there will be a Leadership Orientation in Fellowship Hall. Please join us to learn about your role and how you can best fulfill your ministry calling.

**Easter Flowers**—If you are interested in purchasing Easter Flowers in honor or remembrance of family, friends, or loved ones, please complete the insert and return it to the Church Office no later than Sunday, March 15th. The form is also available on the church website—[www.newmilfordumc.org](http://www.newmilfordumc.org).

**Office Subs**—The Church Office is compiling a list of people who would be willing to serve as a substitute in the absence of the Church Secretary. Duties include checking email, answering the phone, bulletin folding, etc. No computer skills are needed. If you would be interested in being added the list, please contact the Church Office at 860-354-4596 or by email at office@newmilfordumc.org.