

Sandy Recovery Mission Trip—The devastation left by Super Storm Sandy still exists. On May 3 and 4 we would like to send a team to work on local projects on Saturday, attend a local Church on Sunday, and work a few more hours before heading home. If interested in being included in the May trip, please contact Tracie Nixon, Missions Coordinator for NMUMC at 860-355-8628; tracienix@gmail.com or Steve Kolitz at 203-417-9670 or 860-355-8416 or sbkolitz@sbcglobal.net.

Notes

Meetings & Opportunities this week:
 Mon., Mar. 24 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., Mar. 25 at 4:00 pm Girl Scout Troop 40213 in Fellowship Hall
 at 7:00 pm Church Council in Fellowship Hall
 Wed., Mar. 26 at 5:30 pm Lenten Supper in Fellowship Hall
 at 6:00 pm Iglesia Cristo Reina in Sanctuary
 at 6:30 pm Needle Nuts in Conference Room
 at 6:45 pm Lenten Book Study in Fellowship Hall
 at 7:30 pm Boy Scout Troop 31 in Fellowship Hall
 Thurs., Mar. 27 at 3:00 pm "Our Daily Bread" in Food Barn
 at 3:30 pm Confirmation Class in Library
 at 5:45 pm Bells Practice in Sanctuary
 at 7:00 pm Chancel Choir Practice in Sanctuary
 Sun., Mar. 30 at 9:30 am Traditional Service in Sanctuary
 at 10:00 am Children's Sunday School
 at 10:30 am Adult Sunday School
 at 10:45 am Children's Choir Practice
 at 11:30 am Open Door Worship Service in Sanctuary
 at 2:00 pm Iglesia Cristo Reina Church in Sanctuary
 at 2:30 pm Youth Group
 at 4:00 pm Iglesia Cristo Reina Church in Fellow. Hall
 at 6:00 pm Girl Scout Troop 40235 in Fellowship Hall
 Monday - Friday at noon AA meeting in Fellowship Hall

New Milford United Methodist Church
Every Member A Disciple

Ushers—9:30 a.m.—Chris Prause and Dawn Nagle

Open Door Liturgist: Tracie Nixon



The Open Door
Contemporary Worship
11:30 am

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

song 69
 song 50

"here i am to worship"
 "green pastures"

welcome & announcements

passing the peace

song 25
 song 22

"you are the one"
 "draw me closer"

old testament lesson
 page 64 in the old testament in the pew bible

exodus 17:1-7

gospel lesson
 page 95 in the new testament in the pew bible

john 4:7-15

psalm
 page 501 in the old testament in the pew bible

psalm 23

the word of God for the people of God.
thanks be to God.

presentation of the offerings

children's message

message "preparing a table" rev paul a fleck

anthem "stars"

moment of silence

joys & concerns

sacrament of communion

song 3 "with all faith"
 song 14 "sing for joy"

sending forth

Third
 Sunday
 in Lent



The Service of Worship
 New Milford United
 Methodist Church
 68 Danbury Road
 New Milford, CT 06776
 www.newmilfordumc.org
 860-354-4596

Rev. Paul A. Fleck

Third Sunday in Lent
"Preparing a Table"
Sunday, March 23, 2014 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

Moment of Silence

Processional "Become to Us the Living Bread" ELOBT SEI GOTT
Hymn #630

Call to Worship

Leader: When we hunger

People: We cry to the Lord, "Help us, O Lord."

Leader: When we thirst

People: We cry to the Lord, "Help us, O Lord."

Leader: God who created the heavens and the earth hears our cries.

People: Lord, come and quench our thirst and heal our hunger. Amen.

Prayer for Illumination

Everlasting Love, it is a joy to be in the presence of your Word.

We marvel that you have made us your own. As your Word is read, keep us mindful of your faithfulness. Enfold us in your enduring love forever. Amen.

Old Testament Lesson

Page 64 in the New Testament in your pew Bible.

Exodus 17:1-7

(Please stand for the Gospel lesson, if you are able.)

Gospel Lesson

Page 95 in the New Testament in your pew Bible.

John 4:7-15

Psalm

Page 501 in the Old Testament in your pew Bible.

The Word of God for the People of God.
Thanks be to God.

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**Prayer****The Lord’s Prayer****OFFERING****Invitation to Offering**

Offertory “I Will Remember Thee”
Chancel Choir

ALTHOUSE

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.

The children are invited to go out to Sunday School after the Offering Prayer.

Prayer

Wellspring of eternal life, we come to you this day having drunk deeply the waters of anxiety and despair. Bring to us your living water. Quench our thirsting souls, for we offer this prayer in Your Name. **Amen.**

Responses

Please remain seated for the hymn.

Hymn 632 “Draw Us in the Spirit’s Tether” UNION SEMINARY

Morning Prayer

Joys and concerns are lifted before God and the congregation.

Pastoral Prayer**SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION**

Please see insert for the Sacrament of Communion

Psalm 23

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

“Preparing A Table”

Rev. Paul A. Fleck

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

Hymn 3149

“A Place at the Table”

PLACE AT THE TABLE

SENDING FORTH**JOYS AND CONCERNS**

We are thankful:

- Roxanne Martin is recovering so well from her back surgery that she was able to attend church.
- Ellie Middleton’s recovery is going well.

Our prayers are with:

- The LaBella family whose daughter is fighting cancer while pregnant.
- Millie Ackerly’s daughter who begins cancer treatment tomorrow.
- Jan Parson’s sister-in-law, Ellen, who is having major surgery.
- The Children of Syria.
- The passengers on the missing Malaysian airplane.
- Janet Schnitzler’s sister-in-law, Evelyn.
- Denise Reiss’ friend who is suffering from ovarian cancer.
- Traci Poeti’s brother, Rob, who has health issues.
- Bonnie Knapp’s brother, Dick, who is recovering from surgery for lung cancer.
- Marlene Davis’ nephew who is in hospice.

OUR LIFE IN COMMUNITY

Have an announcement for Our Life in Community? If you get it to us by 12 noon on Thursday, we will try to make sure it gets into the bulletin the following Sunday.

Fellowship Hour is held every Sunday between services in Fellowship Hall. It’s a wonderful time to catch up with each other and get to know others that you may not know well, whether it’s a newcomer or someone that goes to a different service. Everyone is invited to attend—coffee and pastries will be served!

Lenten Soup & Study—Please join us on Wednesdays at 5:30 in Fellowship Hall as we study spiritual disciplines such as prayer, fasting, and meditation.

All Church Lenten Service Project-Comfort Bags for the Danbury Women’s Center Emergency Shelter. Often, women in crisis escape from abusive situations with little more than the clothes on their backs. NMUMC will be collecting items for and creating “Comfort Bags” that include various

necessaries. We need a number of different items for donations. We will need fabric for the bags themselves; we will also need the following toiletries/necessaries to help “fill the bags”: toothbrushes, toothpaste, shampoo, conditioner, washcloths, small towels, feminine hygiene products, combs, brushes, deodorant, and mouthwash. Please deposit these items in the Narthex/Library at the back of the Sanctuary. On March 30 from 1:00—3:30 p.m. in Fellowship Hall we will form an assembly line of volunteers to put the items in the finished bags. Let’s see how many we can make for this worthy cause! For more information on how you can get involved, contact Pastor Paul Fleck, who is helping to coordinate the project, at 860-354-4596 or via e-mail at pastorpaul@newmilfordumc.org.

Special Offering Notices

There will be special offering taken on **March 30** for Dieudonne Karihano, UMC Missionary in Agricultural Missions and Community Development in Cambine, Mozambique, Africa. Dieudonne will be our guest speaker during both worship services.

On **April 6th**, there will be a special offering for **One Great Hour of Sharing**. One Great Hour of Sharing supports the United Methodist Committee Relief (UMCOR) - the UMC’s disaster response agency. Because of your support for UMCOR’s administrative expenses during One Great Hour of Sharing, when disaster strikes, 100% of your offerings go to disaster-affected areas.

Relay for Life needs team members! Team members help as much as they can, when they can, in any area they desire. Any and all help is highly appreciated and there is something for everyone:

- plan and organize fundraisers
- sell Luminaria bags
- obtain donations/sponsors/pledges per lap or one set amount
- secure donations of silent auction items
- decorate our tent station
- help set up or take down tent station on the day of the event
- sign up to attend the tent station during the event

Please lend a hand when and where you can to help us with this worthy cause. Please contact Team Captain Linda Slater at lslater0256@yahoo.com or 860-354-6180 for further information.

Easter Flowers—Easter Flower order forms are available in the Sanctuary (in the holders just inside the door) and on the church website—www.newmilfordumc.org. All orders are due by **next Sunday, March 30**. Flowers are \$14.00 each and you may choose from tulips, hyacinths, lilies, or pink lilies.

God Sightings come from the desire to share the every day occurrences and small miracles that reveal the nature of God. A luminous smile from a stranger, an answered prayer, a change of heart, an unexpected grace or mercy. God sightings are not religious and do not exclude any who feel that they have brushed up against the unknown, the miraculous, the divine. We all sometimes need to be reminded that God is here within us, whispering, winking, and LOVING. Pass along your story and who knows, you may be the God Sighting that someone needs today. We will now be featuring your God Sightings in our newsletter. If you would like to submit a God Sighting, or a few, please send them to Emily Nixon at opendoor@newmilfordumc.org or call her at (203)947-9876. Please let her know if you would like your God Sighting to be anonymous upon submission.