

on Relief). We will be assembling kits on Sunday, March 29 at 1:30 p.m. and will take donations up to that day. A well-placed, well-marked box will be in the lobby of the church with the list of needed supplies. You can also find the list in the February Church Newsletter and on the front page of the church website—www.newmilfordumc.org. Most items can be purchased at the Dollar store, Walmart, or a drug store. All items must be new. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact Tracie Nixon at 860-355-8628 or by email at tracienix@gmail.com.

Sermon Survey Results - Pastor Paul and the Worship Team would like to thank all of you who responded to the Sermon Survey and want to let you know that plans are already in the works to conduct sermons on the suggestions you provided. Pastor Paul will be taking a brief "sermon retreat" 3 days this week at Wisdom House in Litchfield, Connecticut to work on those plans. Look for the first series "Short Stories by Jesus," a sermon series on the kingdom parables, to take place during the six weeks after Easter.

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
Mon., Mar. 16 at 10:30 am Tai Chi in Fellowship Hall
 at 4:00 pm Daisy Troop 40215 in FH
 at 6:30 pm Wesley Group in Fellowship Hall
Tues., Mar. 17 at 7:00 pm SPR in Conference Room
Wed., Mar. 18 at 7:00 pm Missions in Conference Room
 at 7:00 pm Lenten Book Study in Sanctuary
 at 7:00 pm Boy Scout Troop 31 in Fellowship Hall
Thurs, Mar. 19 at 1:30 pm Book club in Fellowship Hall
 at 3:00 pm "Our Daily Bread" in Food
 at 3:30 pm Bridgeport Rescue Mission (off-site)
 at 3:30 pm Confirmation in Library
 at 5:45 pm Bells Practice in Sanctuary
 at 6:30 pm Pack 467 in Fellowship Hall
 at 7:00 pm Choir Practice in Sanctuary
Fri., Mar. 20 at 3:30 pm Loaves and Fishes (off-site)
 at 6:00 pm Girl Scout Troop 40236 in FH
Sat., Mar. 21 at 7:15 pm Bowling Night at Lore's Lanes
Sun., Mar. 22 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

Monday - Friday at noon AA meeting in Fellowship Hall

To view the most recent calendar, visit our website—
www.newmilfordumc.org/calendar.html



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

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

song 10 "as we gather"
 song 40 "open the door"

welcome & announcements

passing the peace

song 49 "come ye sinner"

contemplative moment

song 89 "Lord, i need you"

new testament lesson ephesians 2:1-10
 page 139 in the new testament in your pew Bible.

gospel lesson john 3:14-21
 page 92 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 "seeing Jesus today" rachel duncan

joys & concerns

song 1 "God is great"
 song 39 "we seek your face"

sending forth

9:30 a.m. Ushers — Chris Prause and Kyle Doto
11:30 a.m. Usher —Carol Muska



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, Pastor
 Sandy Lybe, Music Minister
 Brinna Kolitz, Youth Leader
 Emily Nixon, Open Door Band Leader

*Fourth Sunday in Lent/One Great Hour of Sharing
 Sunday, March 15, 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 "What Wondrous Love Is This" WONDROUS LOVE
Hymn #292

Call to Worship

Leader: We gather to share in our love of God.
People: Lord, open our hearts and let us share your Good News.
 Leader: We gather to share our witness to God's goodness.
People: Lord, let our lives bear witness through service to your people.
 Leader: We gather to praise God whose love is eternal.
People: Lord, open our hearts today to sing your praises. Amen.

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.
Listen for the story of life.

Old Testament Lesson Number 21:4-9
 Page 139 in the Old Testament in your pew Bible.

New Testament Lesson Ephesians 2:1-10
 Page 192 in the New Testament in your pew Bible.

Please stand as you are able for the Gospel readings.

Gospel Lesson

John 3:14-21

Page 94 in the New Testament in your pew Bible.

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

"Amazing Grace"

ALTHOUSE

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

Prayer

Lord, as we gather here, on this day of sharing, remind us that you have shared with us your most precious gift, our Lord Jesus Christ. Help us to model our lives after his messages of compassion and service to you and to all your world. In Christ's Name, we offer this prayer. Amen.

RESPONSES

Special Offering

One Great Hour of Sharing

Please stand as you are able for the hymn.

Hymn #108

"God Hath Spoken by the Prophets"

EBENEZER

Morning Prayer

Joys and concerns are lifted before God and the congregation.

Pastoral Prayer

Prayer of Confession

God, we have sinned against you.

We have spoken against you and your servant Jesus.

We have uttered lies.

We have cursed you and others.

We have said vulgar things.

We have been consumed by doubt.

We have been bitten with the venom of hatred in our world.

We have oppressed the helpless.

We have been intolerant of others.

We have delighted in violence.

We have spent money foolishly.

Please, Lord God, forgive us our transgressions,

that we may be healed of our sin.

Words of Assurance

Passing the Peace

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

"Seeing Jesus Today"

Rachel Duncan

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

Hymn #2172 (TFWS)

"We Are Called"

WE ARE CALLED

SENDING FORTH

JOYS AND CONCERNS

we are thankful:

- Thomas John Taranto, Nanci Mascio's grandson, had successful surgery to put tubes in his ears.
- Katie, Gene and Jan Parsons granddaughter, who no longer needs crutches.

our prayers are with:

- Diane Jones, a relative Linda and Alex Slater, who had a large tumor removed from her bladder and will be undergoing chemotherapy.
- Rob, Traci Poeti's brother, who has a muscular disorder.
- Michael Dion, who is in the hospital.
- Jim, the Martin Family's neighbor, who is recovering from a heart attack.
- Ray O'Brien, who is facing serious health issues.
- Pat, Roxanne Martin's neighbor, who is facing health issues.
- Alexis, Chris Martirano's niece, who is going through chemotherapy.
- Chris Martirano's father-in-law, who is having open heart surgery.
- Lynn Hayes, who broke a rib after falling on the ice.
- 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.
- 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.
- Sue Sterling's cousin, Mary, who has lung cancer.

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

One Great Hour of Sharing Special Offering- Today we will take a special offering celebrating One Great Hour of Sharing. This special offering by United Methodists helps cover all the operating expenses of the United Methodist Committee of Relief (UMCOR). Thanks to your generosity, UMCOR is able to ensure that 100% of your designated donations get to those who need them most in a disaster or crisis.

Easter Flower Order—DUE TODAY—Today is the last day to purchasing Easter Flowers in honor or remembrance of family, friends, or loved ones. Forms are available on the table by the front door and on the church website—www.newmilfordumc.org.

Nominations—There will be NO Nominations/Lay Leaders meeting today.

Parish Nurses—Hi faith family! Your health is important. If you have diabetes or high blood pressure, don't forget to talk with your doctor about kidney disease testing. For more information on kidney disease and its risk factors, visit www.nkdep.nih.gov. There will be more information on table under the bulletin board for anyone who is interested.

Family Bowling—Join us for family bowling on Saturday, March 21st at 7:15 p.m. at Lore's Lanes (145D Danbury Road, behind Goodwill). Please RSVP to Linda Slater at 860-354-6180 or lslater0256@yahoo.com no later than March 19 to ensure adequate lane space.

Lenten Study Book: *Renegade Gospel* -- Learn what it means to not just believe in Jesus but truly follow him. Join the "Off the Track" Sunday School class at 10:30 a.m. throughout Lent as they engage in this challenging study.

Lenten Book Study: *Renegade Gospel with Pastor Paul*—We are continuing our Book Study discussing *Renegade Gospel* every Wednesday during Lent at 7:00 p.m. in the Conference Room.

Lenten All-Church Mission Project- The Mission Committee is sponsoring our 2nd annual All-Church Lenten Mission project to put together Health Kits to be used by UMCOR (United Methodist Committee