

# STEEPLE TIDINGS

MAY 2011

ISSUE 5-11

## Inside this issue:

- † Some Thoughts . . .  
from Rev. Dave
- † Here Wee Grow!
- † Heritage Notes
- † Troop 108
- † UMW
- † Prayer Chain

## Mission Statement

*As followers of Jesus Christ, our mission is to make Christian*

*Disciples:*

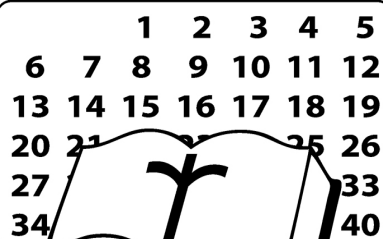
*by using our spiritual gifts; by practicing the means of grace; and by living our faith.*



## NEW HAPPENINGS at HUMC

- May 1**      **Ministry Fair** *(page 3)*
- May 8**      **Mothers' Day** *(page 3)*
- May 14**     **Spring Concert** *(page 4)*
- May 15**     **Sunday School Mini Golf** *(page 5)*

**Worship at HUMC**  
**Sundays at 10 AM**  
Join us for Sunday School



## New Sermon Series

## Sermon Series

On Easter Sunday we celebrated the Resurrection of our Lord. But other than a huge celebration at church, large family dinners, Easter Egg hunts, and lots of chocolate, what did it all really mean? How does our Easter celebration impact the other 52 weeks of the year? Throughout the month of May Rev. Dave will be offering a sermon series that goes **Looking For God In Light of the Resurrection**. During this series we will explore such issues as, "The Tomb is Empty; So What?", "What's the Big Deal About Sin, Anyway?", "Grace Is Not a Blue-Eyed Blonde", "Lord, I'm Gonna Be Perfect." Come and explore the real meaning of resurrection in our daily lives.

## *Some Thoughts From Me*—Rev. Dave



**T**he Book of Proverbs tells us that without vision the people perish. On April 16, I gathered with 18 other people in the Fellowship Hall to see if we could catch a glimpse of the vision that God has for us. It was an exciting meeting. Grounded in

worship and singing, being guided by passages of scripture, we spent the morning wrestling with such questions as “Why did we come to HUMC, and why do we stay?” “What do we do really well, and what could we do better?” “What needs do we see within our congregation and beyond our walls?” and “How is God calling us to address those needs.” The questions and the scripture readings we engaged helped spark lively conversations. The end result was a series of goals/ideas/visions that we will take from the retreat and begin to work on in every committee and group within the church. What are those goals and ideas? I’m glad you asked.

One of the ideas that we felt God putting on our hearts was to get out into the surrounding community to understand just what their needs are. Who are the people living around our church? How can we attract them to become part of this wonderful family? What do we have to offer them once they’re here? There were several ideas about how to go about doing this, including various outreaches revolving around support of the Enfield Food Shelf, and those details will take on substance as the Church Council and various other groups begin to work on it, but you get the idea.

Another key vision had to do with our ministries to both the elderly, and children and youth. For the elderly, the ideas included lay visitation, including having members take communion to those unable to attend church; developing a database of people who live alone so that we might be a resource for knowing who to contact in the event of an

emergency; holding repair/work days once or twice a year. In terms of children and youth there was discussion about the need to “do something” with the old Playland Room.

Underlying all of this was the idea of doing a better job of letting people know what it is that makes HUMC so special. This is a wonderful family. It is why we come and why we stay. So many people are looking for that sense of community—that sense of having a place to belong—that we enjoy here. We need to get the word out.

It’s hard to summarize everything in a short article, so all of the discussion, including all of the ideas and comments that came out of the retreat will be collected into a single document and be available in the very near future. I hope when it comes out that you will read it prayerfully to see how you might be involved. One important vision that came out of the retreat was to have everyone in the church, regardless of age, be involved in something other than just Sunday morning worship. To that end, you will hear soon about “Mission 2011” which will give every person in the congregation a chance to be a part of this year’s mission trip in some manner. You will also have a chance to consider how God would have you be involved by attending the Ministry Fair which the Stewardship Committee is hosting after church on May 1.

In the meantime, I invite you to take the Covenant Challenge, which every person at the retreat committed to.

*See Thoughts— Page 3.*

## Thoughts —continued from Page 2.

The covenant states:

*I covenant to pray daily for the next 30 days...*

*For the needs we identified*

*For discernment in addressing these needs*

*For discernment in how God would have ME involved*

*For one another on our journey.*

Take the challenge. Read the retreat summary. Come to the Ministry Fair. Get involved. We are about to embark on an exciting ride. Don't miss it.

God bless,

*Dave*

JOIN US ON SUNDAY

MAY 1

FELLOWSHIP HALL—After Worship

~MINISTRY FAIR~

**Members of our church committees will be on hand to speak with you about their ministry.**

**Join us. . .better yet, Join a Committee!**

## Pictures of Moms

Sunday, May 8, is Mothers' Day, and we want to celebrate and honor your mother. During our worship service that day we will have a time where their pictures will be displayed as we pay tribute to the women who helped make us who we are today. If you would like to honor your



mother, whether she is still living or not, please send an electronic picture of her to the office with her name included, or drop off a picture at the office for us to scan. The picture will be returned unharmed.

**Deadline for pictures is Thursday, May 5.**

## Resource Center - Colleen Williams



### Community Stewardship

Thanks to all who have contributed, our church Resource Center is up and running. We have many items on hand and are constantly accepting donations of items that you may have on hand that you don't need but that are too good to throw away. These items will be collected, sorted and then made available for re-use by anyone in the church community. If you are working on a classroom project or a specific craft and need supplies such as cardboard tubes, ribbons, aluminum tins with lids or poly-fill please take a look in the cabinets and drawers in the Resource Center located in the old Playland kitchen downstairs.

At this point we do not need any more shoe boxes, but we are accepting donations of items such as leftover craft supplies, clean fabrics and odds and ends of wrapping paper.

**Harvest Fair.** The planning for the Harvest Fair is underway! We are in need of the following items:

*Jewelry, whole or broken*

*Beads*

*Silk flowers and silk leaves*

*Autumn-colored fabrics*

*Country fabrics*

*Old blue jeans*

*New bars of soap*

*Scrapbook paper*

*Fabric ribbons of all sizes*

*Grapevine-type wreaths, plain*

*If you can supply any of these, please place them in the box in the church library.*

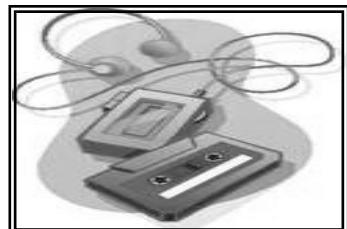


Mark your  
Calendars

Saturday  
May 14, 4 PM

HUMC will be celebrating  
with a  
**Spring Concert**  
featuring members from our  
Senior Choir and their friends.  
Please join us in the Sanctuary.  
No Admission charge.  
A Free Will Offering will be taken.

**Tapes for Shut-ins.** Did you know that we tape each service? We do! That means if you or a loved one can't make it to church on a given Sunday, you can borrow a cassette tape of the service to enjoy at your leisure. Simply see Rev. Dave, and he will be happy to get you the tape. Take your time. Listen to it as many times as you like and simply return it when you are finished.



## *Everyone Wins! CT* - Roberta Bragan



The communion offering for April will go to Everyone Wins! CT. Everyone Wins? CT is a reading mentoring program in the Connecticut Public Elementary Schools that consists of two parts: Power Lunch and Readers as Leaders. Power Lunch volunteers are adults who spend one lunch period a week reading with a student. Each fall volunteers are matched with students who qualify for the program. To qualify, the student must maintain high standards of conduct. The volunteer and the student work together over the school year. In Readers as Leaders, middle school students are selected and given leadership training before being matched with a kindergarten student. They read together over the course of a school year.

Many of these students have never had anyone read to them. Many of them are from single parent homes where they get little attention. All of the students are bright, fun-loving and look forward to the one-on-one relationship with an adult. The goal of the program is not to teach them to read, but to teach them that reading is fun. The hope is that they will read better if they enjoy reading and that they will read books other than those assigned to them in their class work.

Programs are now located in Hartford, Bloomfield, New Britain, Windsor, East Hartford and

“When a child reads, Everyone Wins!”



### **Used Book Sale scheduled for**

**Saturday, June 18, 2011**

**Start looking through your treasures for gently used books  
that you wish to donate to HUMC's Used Book Sale.**

**Look for more information as the date gets closer.  
For now, just keep June 18 open!!**

### **VBS—MUSIC & Arts Camp 2011 Weeks of July 4-8 and July 25-29**

Last year we had 100+ campers. Our two-week program was such a success we are offering it again.

Volunteers are needed...a week...a day...an hour...pre-camp work done at home. Let us know how you would like to help as there are always things to be done and we will find a job for you.

Please sign up now. See Jackie or Becky Michaud or use the sign-up sheet on the Outreach bulletin board opposite the kitchen.



## *United Methodist Women* — Linda Borio



**UNITED METHODIST WOMEN  
TUESDAY, MAY 10,  
6:30 PM—FELLOWSHIP HALL  
~POTLUCK SUPPER~**

**PROGRAM: “Aid and Assistance  
through the Veterans Administration”**

All too often, as our veterans age, and sometimes earlier, they may require aid and assistance and are unable to figure out how and where to apply for such. Linda Versteeg and Rick Gorman will be here to guide us through this maze of opportunity for all veterans and their families. All men and women are invited. Bring a dish to share, as well as your own plate and silverware. Drinks, cups and napkins will be provided.

Tonight is also the night when we reveal our Secret Pal, and we'll choose a Secret Pal for 2011-2012 for whom we pray during the year. If, you are unable to attend this meeting and wish to become a Secret Pal for 2011-2012, be sure to let Janette Young know prior to the meeting so you can give her your name, address, birth date (month and day), and anniversary date for the Secret Pal exchange.

I'm afraid I did not mark my calendar in January, and consequently Dick and I planned our Spring stay in Stowe for the week of May 7-14th, and I will be missing this meeting. I won't even call it a Senior Moment. . . simply forgot to mark my calendar. I will miss you all, but hope you can attend the meeting and hear Linda and Rick's important message

**Chair: Janette Young**

**Hostesses: Marie Prior, Janette Burkhardt, Charlotte Stenlake**



### **Youth Sunday— June 5, 2011**

Mark your calendars now for Youth Sunday which will be held on June 5. This is always an exciting service as our Sunday School program “takes over” the service to share with us what they have learned during the year. This year’s program will be even more exciting with the morning message being written and presented by our older youth, and the unveiling of our own, HUMC Youth Orchestra.



**This is one Sunday you won't want to miss.**



### **SUNDAY SCHOOL MINIATURE GOLF SUNDAY, MAY 15, 2011, 2 PM**

Our Sunday School will be going to the Somers Golf Center for a fun round of mini golf on Sunday, May 15. The Somers Golf Center is giving us a discounted rate of \$6.50 per person.

**Everyone is invited. The more, the merrier!!**

## *Here Wee Grow!*— Phyllis Phelan



May brings thoughts of flowers, mothers, sunny days and ocean visits. We will enjoy having our moms join us at **Here Wee Grow!** for some quality time at school. We'll have tea parties, sing together and have time to play. We are very excited to say the least!

Our theme for the month is "Under the Sea." We'll talk about what lives in the ocean, what can be found on the shore and how we can help keep the ocean clean for the future.

Thanks to our **HWG** Parent Group we will enjoy a trip to the Springfield Science Museum and have Mystic Aquarium visit HWG. The Parent Group, under the leadership of Mrs. Herzig, a **HWG** staff member and parent of two **HWG** students, along with other HWG parents, has worked long and hard to plan events for our students. We are very fortunate to have such a hard working group of parents. We do appreciate their efforts and the time spent in planning our events.

**HWG** has had several mission projects this year. The latest event was riding our bikes for the children of St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. In the past four years **HWG** has collected \$12,668 to benefit children. Thus far, this year's event has brought in an additional \$2000. The final count will be known the end of April when all pledges have been returned. We thank our parents and grandparents for their help with the trik-a-thon. We also thank friends and family for their generosity in supporting the **HWG** children with their pledges.

Enrollments for the next school year are coming in on a regular basis. It is wonderful showing our facility to perspective students and their families. We have received many compliments from families who have stopped in to visit. These are always a pleasure to hear. Registration is ongoing so we'll keep you posted.

As always, we thank you, the HUMC membership, for your prayers and your support.

*Until next time . . .*

**Harvest Fair.** Have you been thinking about what you can do for the upcoming Harvest Fair? There are many ways that you can contribute to its success. For example: Join the Wednesday morning Crafter's Group. Check out your storage room or basement and set aside treasures to sell at *Grandma's Attic*. Nurture plants for the *Plant Table*. Scour your cookbooks and find new and exciting recipes for candies or cookies or preserves. Donate items from the Wish List. (page 4). Pray for the success of the Harvest Fair. Mark your calendar now and keep the dates open: **October 21 and 22.**



**Questions? Call Colleen Williams [860-749-9595].**



### His Banner is Over Us—Mission 2011

Just a reminder to mark the date of August 7-13, 2011, on your calendar. This will be the week of our Second Annual Trip to Salem Economic Ministry, along with some members of Enfield United Methodist Church and other area churches. Everyone between the ages of 16 and 96 are invited to join us. Last year we were able to make life more comfortable for three families and had a great time doing so. This is an all-church mission effort. For those who will be unable to join us, we also have mission opportunities for you.

At our recent planning meeting several members enrolled in the Mission 2011 team. Further information will be available in Fellowship Hall on Sunday, May 1, following worship. All skill levels are welcome.

If you are unable to join us on May 1, call Sandy Butcher (860-749-0478) for more information. Look for additional team meeting dates in our Sunday bulletins.

### *A Testimonial from Friends!* *Ed and Sandra Butcher*

*“Why do we keep coming to Rural Mission? For many, many years we have made the journey to the Sea Islands in order to find a place where perhaps we could make a difference in the lives of others. It is because we truly believe that in our life we need to help our fellow neighbors, that keeps us coming again and again. It doesn't matter if it is repairing a home or building from the ground up, doing odd jobs at the Mission, listening when our “ears” are much more needed than our “hands” whatever the tasks that are needed when we come, there seems always to be work for us.*

*“We are most fortunate that our home church, Hazardville United Methodist Church, in Enfield, CT, is so supportive of what we do here at Rural Mission. It is because of the financial gifts of our congregation that we are able to spend down its mission checkbook while we are here, that makes it all possible. They have been very kind about our ability to use the funding in any way we see fit. Our Outreach Committee is comprised of a circle of friends who have been on mission trips, serving in other areas of need locally, nationally, and internationally. We are most appreciative of what they do for us so that we may do for others. We also know that our beloved church keeps us in prayer while we are here.*

*“We know the needs of the Sea Islands are many. We also know that God will place us just where He wants us to be. We are thankful for all the Mission has meant to us over the years. Its wonderful staff always welcomes us when we arrive. And now as we head home shortly after a stay here, we know that we will be returning next year to be open to whatever needs the good Lord puts in our path. Until then,*

*Blessings to all.*

*Love, Ed and Sandra Butcher”*

## *Heritage Notes—A Page from our History — Alice Allen*

**137 year Heritage 1835 – 1972  
By Ruth Bridge  
Hazardville United Methodist Church  
Enfield, Connecticut**

*(Continued from last month.)*

So much for the years at the Old Church. In 1870 there was talk of a new church. The records seem to contain no hint of why it was felt there should be a new building. However, the idea caught on, and people gave generously toward it. The cornerstone was laid the next year and in 1872 the building was completed. The dedication service was held in August of that year. The cost of the building was about \$23,000 of which \$18,800 had been subscribed by the people and \$2,600 had been realized from the sale of the Old Church property.

Now there was need of a parsonage near the new church. It was not easy to raise funds for a new parsonage so soon after building the church but it was felt that this was necessary and \$2,595 was promised. The old parsonage was sold and land just west of the present church was bought. There was a house on this land which was used by the minister until 1876 when the new residence was built. The ladies raised \$500 for furnishings.

The church was now left with a debt of \$4,700.

In 1885 the Hazardville Methodist Church marked 50 years of existence. By way of celebration the debt was paid off, the church was redecorated, a new carpet was bought, and \$1,000 was paid for a pipe organ. Up to this time (from 1863) a cabinet organ had been used.

The year 1909 saw another innovation; the church was wired for electric lights. This replaced a system of gas-line lights with a ring of burners high up in the center of the auditorium. Before this, kerosene lamps placed along the side walls had furnished light.

The next change in the church building came in 1923. At this time a three story addition was built in the rear that provided space for a Ladies Parlor, classrooms, a kitchen and a heating plant. The auditorium was rearranged with the choir loft and organ at the front. A new organ was given by Mrs. George B. Gordon and the pictorial windows by Mrs. David Gordon. The church was rededicated by Bishop Hughes of the new England Area, and the dedicatory prayer was by the Reverend Thomas Tyrie, a former Pastor who had spent ten years in Hazardville.

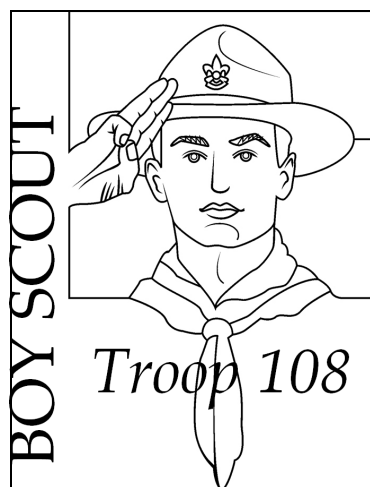
During the Pastorate of the Reverend Homer Ginns the basement room known as the Gilbert Pierce Room was excavated. Gilbert was the first war casualty of the parish. He was killed in Belgium in December 1944 at the age of nineteen.

*To be continued next month*

Submitted by Alice Godard Allen  
Church Historian



## Troop 108 — Bill Munsell



**Scouting This Summer:** Scouts in Troop 108 are given the opportunity to camp out twelve months of the year. . . ten months in tents and two months when the real cold winter arrives, they are in cabins that are heated by gas. Talk about convenience; can you beat that!! We are kept busy in June, July and August, too. Summer Camp is July 24-31 at Yawgoog Scout Reservation in Rockville, RI. The cost this year is \$425.00 per week and includes camp fees, (2) class B T-shirts, an embroidered Yawgoog hat and other expenses. Financial assistance should be discussed with Scoutmaster Kevin Zorda or Chairman Scott Vujs. As usual parents are welcome to attend camp for a day or two or a week, Talk to Scoutmaster Kevin Zorda. Yawgoog is offering the following new merit badges this year - cooking, finger printing and medicine. Yawgoog will do just about anything to help the boy in advancement that might not be

available in his home town at convenient times. This opportunity is also for our new first year scouts.

The March campout at Bear Lake Scout Reservation in Killingworth, CT, was well attended by 31 scouts with 9 leaders/adults helping the scouts enjoy the weekend. Several new scouts were able to get many of the requirements completed and are now ready for the Scoutmaster Conference and then on to the Board of Review to qualify them for Tenderfoot and/or Second Class. At times a scout may be ready for the Board of Review if he comes prepared in complete uniform. This is an added chore as the uniform needs to be packed in his backpack, along with the necessary camping supplies that he transports to the campsite which can, at times, be some distance away. We Congratulate Alex Perdue who did this and passed the Star Rank Board of Review. Way to go, Alex!

A special event this weekend was the Flag Retirement ceremony. Several old American Flags were done in accordance with the National Flag Disposal requirements. This was accomplished during the night campfire and was a moving and educational treat for the scouts.

The adults celebrated St. Patrick's Day with corned beef Reuben sandwiches.

Patrick Stone slept out in a tent to earn the iceberg patch as the temperature dipped below 30 degrees.

The Troop is growing and activities are being well attended--6 new Webloes cub scouts from pack 108 and pack 396 were recently welcomed into the troops usual grand "Hello and yell." Advancements are at the usual pace with eleven merit badges, seven rank advancements and one Eagle. Carmon Sutphin passed his Eagle Board of Review by council representatives and several local adults on March 19. The learning opportunities in the scouting programs are what boys enjoy, and they soak up the knowledge that's available.

The family campout, June 3-5 at Odetah Camp ground, is a chance for families to get to know each other; this usually ends up getting more involved in the Troop 108 activities.

Please check out our Mothers' Day plant sale May 7 and 8 right here at the church, or Raffia Road Station and Route 5 (1227 Enfield Street) . We will offer the same flowers at all three locations. Our scouts will be on hand to help load flowers in your cars. Proceeds give scouts credit towards next year's Mystery Trip. ***"Scouts set goals, overcome obstacles and enjoy the fun of it all."***

## ~On the Personal Side~

Many thanks to all those who sent their condolences, prayers and cards to Leslee and me on the passing of my mother earlier in April. I was also blown away by all the church people who came to the wake and funeral—my heart was lighter when I saw all of you. Again, you are a most caring church, and I thank God for all of you

Love,

*Joyce and Leslee*

I was deeply touched by the many cards and well wishes sent to me during my bout with a touch of pneumonia. Thanks to the prayers, cards and antibiotics, I am up feeling much, much better. Thanks again, to my wonderful Church Family.

*Linda Borio*



# MAY

- 1     *John Sandford*
- 3     *Holly Fisher*
- 6     *Noma Caldwell*
- 20    *Dot Prest*
- 23    *Tracy Weisel*
- 24    *Diane Hocter*
- 31    *Ernie Jensen*

**Call the church office at 860-749-7098 to have your name included on our birthday lists!!**



**To that wonderful volunteer production staff...**Heartfelt thanks to the gracious, considerate production staff whose nimble fingers made short work of our April issue of Steeple Tidings . . . **Pat Owens, Nancy Dyer.** . . with special thanks to Don Niemann for all his support and help.



**Please keep the following in your prayers**

John Allen, Polly Brown, Jane Clark,  
Esta Clarke, Berta Clawson, Molly Johnson,  
Nancy Johnson, Leroy Miller, Mary Nickerson, Barry Sackett,  
Peg Smith, Florence Stimpson,

**Pray also for these Members**

Babs Baker, Redstone Rehab Facility, 135 Benton Dr, E.Longmeadow, MA  
Mildred Doreski at Blair Manor, 612 Hazard Avenue, Enfield, CT  
Asa and Hildegard Waller, Suffield House, 1 Canal Road, Suffield, CT  
Bertha Somero, Parkway Healthcare, 1157 Enfield Street, Enfield, CT

*If you have a name to add or notice a name that is missing,  
please contact Isobel Skukowski or the church office.*





**For all who have internet capabilities . .**

**Did you know you can access  
Steeple Tidings on our web page?**

**Well, you can.**

**Simply go to [www.hazardvilleumc.net](http://www.hazardvilleumc.net)  
and click on Steeple Tidings.  
Our Web Master puts the current issue  
of Steeple Tidings up on this site.  
You can also access back issues.**

**Give it a try!**