



WEST CHELMSFORD UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

242 Main Street, North Chelmsford, MA 01863

Pastor: Rev. A. Mack Hagins

Tele. # 978-251-4834 email: office@wcumc.us

Church website: www.wcumc.us

*WCUMC Faith, Family, and Future are the
Cornerstones of this nurturing community.*

MAY 2018 NEWSLETTER

From the Pastor's Desk

May is a month of endings and beginnings. Many activities in our lives are scheduled according to the school year (or program year, as we refer to it in the church). In the church we begin in September with our Sunday School, choir and other programs. They generally run through May into early June. But in May we are drawing those programs to a close for the season, and preparing for the summer break. In the schools May is the season for graduations, as students leave behind one stage of their lives and move on to another.

It is that “moving on to another stage” that is the “beginnings” part of May. It is reflected in nature all around us, as God brings forth new life in the plants and animals, and nature moves on to another generation. After the winter season, many of us humans feel renewed and revived in this season as well. We are more than ready to “graduate” from winter and move on to spring!

This continuous cycle of renewal should remind us Christians of the hope that God has brought in the Resurrection of Jesus Christ. Each time we end and begin again in life, each time we start over, we proclaim the Good News of the Gospel – that God through Jesus Christ makes it possible for us to begin again with a clean slate, to leave the past behind. That is the essence of God's grace, and the wonder of God's love.

So welcome to the season of renewal and new life.

Reverend Mack

Worship Services in May

Sunday May 5th – 3rd Sunday of Easter

Sr. Choir

9:30 am – Holy Communion - Worship Service & Nursery Care

9:30am – Sunday School



**Sunday May 12th – 4th Sunday of Easter
Celebration Ringers & Singers, Carol Choir
*Happy Mother's Day!***

9:30am – Worship Service & Nursery Care

9:30am – Sunday School

Sunday May 19th – 5th Sunday of Easter

Sr. Choir

9:30 am – **Baccalaureate Service** & Nursery Care

9:30am – Sunday School



Sunday May 26th – 6th Sunday of Easter

Festival Ringers

9:30am – Worship Service

Intergenerational Mission Day

10:30 am – Coffee and fellowship every Sunday



Potluck Supper & Movie under the Stars

On Saturday May 4th the Christian Education Committee invites everyone to a potluck dinner and movie under the stars. The potluck dinner will be at 6:00pm with the outdoor movie starting at 7:30pm. Activities for the kids will be available between dinner and the movie. As always popcorn and other concessions will be for sale during the movie! We ask everyone to bring blankets and lawn chairs for the movie which will

be set up in the back yard (weather permitting). We hope you will come enjoy a night with your church family to explore a Mexican tradition!

FAITH WORKS

Faith Works May 11, 2019

Faith Work Teams May 11th is fast approaching!!

Please check the Education Building window for which team you will be on and what to bring. I have identified a Team Leader and you may contact them if you need further information! Looking forward to sharing pastries and coffee with you on Saturday, May 11th at 8:00 AM in Fellowship Hall. Don't forget to wear your t-shirts!! Questions, call Lori Evans at 978-319-5690.

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## *Missions Committee*

Excitement is growing for the **Chocolate Lover's Night!** You don't want to miss this! Although someone suggested that we hold a chocolate event every month, the plan for now is only for **May 18<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm** in the Fellowship Hall. We will have 12 stations for you to sample our best chocolate delicacies. Participants will vote on their favorite and an award will be given to the chocolate treat getting the highest votes. We hope to feature the Living Stones Band, our Brazilian partner at West Chelmsford UMC. Adults and youth, 10 and up are \$8 each, children 5-9 are \$5 and children under 4 are free. All proceeds go to Justice For Our Neighbors, Lawrence/Lowell Clinic.

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New Contact Information for Rev. Mack

As I mentioned in the March newsletter, my wife Whitney and I are in the process of moving to the family farm in Bolton, where we will retire in the coming years. Our house in Chelmsford is going on the market during the first week of May and we are no longer living there. Our new contact information is:

Street Address: 310 Green Rd., Bolton, MA 01740

Home Phone Number: 978-779-6418 (We will be setting up voicemail on the home number soon.)



My other contact information remains the same:

Email: Revmack@wcumc.us

Church office Phone Number: 978-251-4834

Rev. Mack

Christian Education News

Coming Soon!

Potluck Supper and Outdoor Movie Night

On May 4th the Christian Education committee invites everyone to a potluck dinner and movie under the stars. The potluck dinner will be at 6pm with the outdoor movie starting at 7:30pm. Activities for the kids will be available between dinner and the movie. As always popcorn and other concessions will be for sale during the movie! We ask everyone to bring blankets and lawn chairs for the movie which will be set up in the back yard (weather permitting). We hope you will come for a supercalifragilisticexpialidocious time!



Vacation Bible School 2019

Are you ready to travel to Athens, Greece?! During the week of July 29th through August 2nd, we are inviting children, youth and adults to travel to Athens to learn about Paul's Adventures and what it was like to a Christian during the time of the early church. Children starting Kindergarten through 6th grade this fall are invited to experience Athens as part of a family group. Youth in middle school and high school are invited to be youth leaders with a wide variety of possible responsibilities. Finally, we need a few more adults to volunteer for a variety of roles to make Athens come to life. If you are interested in volunteering please contact, Sarah Laflamme. We will be accepting registration forms starting mid-May so please keep an eye out for more information!

What's happening in SS?

Last Day of Sunday School Lessons and Pentecost Picnic

The last day of Sunday school classroom lessons will be June 2nd. On June 9th, our church family will celebrate Pentecost with an intergenerational service at 9:30am followed by our annual picnic. Children are encouraged to worship with their families.

Is God calling you to share your faith?

One way you can share your faith is to work with the children and youth of our church. The Christian Education Committee is already looking ahead to next year and ask you to prayerfully consider if God is calling you to work with our older elementary and middle school youth on Sunday mornings. Please reach out to Sarah Laflamme or Harry Johnson if you are feeling called to engage in the church community this way.

Connecting with Christ

Daily Scripture Reading: The S.O.A.P. Method

Have you ever thought "I would like to read more of the bible, but I am not sure how to start?" Well there is a simple technique, called S.O.A.P. that can help you work your way through reading scripture. The "S" is for scripture. The Book of Acts is a good place to start! The "O" is for Observation. What do you observe in the scripture lesson? Next is the "A" for Application. How can you learn from what you observe and apply it to your life? Finally, "P" is for Prayer. Take some time to talk with God after reflecting on his word.

If you have any questions or comments about our Christian Education Program please contact:

Sarah Laflamme
Christian Education Director
Christian-ed@wcumc.us
978-320-4090

Harry Johnson
Chairperson, CE Committee
hjohns24@csc.com
978-251-8587

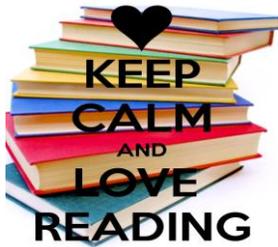
Scholarship Applications



Graduating High School Seniors who are continuing their education have an opportunity to apply for scholarship assistance from the Ian Macpherson Scholarship Fund of the West Chelmsford Methodist Church. Students are eligible if they have been active in Sunday school and/or the Senior High UMYF program or a visible participant in the life of the church in general. Scholarship applications are available in the church office, the literature table in the Education Building entrance, or from a Sr. MYF leader.

Scholarship awards will be distributed at a **Baccalaureate service on May 19th**. **Deadline for submission of Application form: Wednesday, May 1st**.

Scholarship Committee



Divine Readers

The Divine Readers are meeting on Tuesday, May 28th (date change due to Memorial Day) at 7:00pm. Come share in fellowship and conversation centered around faith and literature. No commitments, come when you can. This month's book is a non-fiction book called "The Boy That Came Back from Heaven" by Kevin and Alex Malarkey. Copies of this book are available at the Westford Public Library.

Please feel free to call 978-692-8206 or email me orderc@verizon.net with any questions or book suggestions.

Cathy Order

Spring Concert Coming Merrimack Valley Ringers



SAVE THE DATE! Sunday, June 2, 2019 at 3:00 PM. Merrimack Valley Ringers, our resident community handbell ensemble, will present a concert of uplifting handbell music that will surely make an "Impression". Admission is free. We hope you will come and experience our "Always Different, Always Fun!" program.

Karen E. Leonard, Artistic Director - MVR

Church Office Information

- The Church Office is open Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday, from 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. (978-251-4834)
- **We have 6 E-mail addresses:**
office@wcumc.us – for general church business.
revmack@wcumc.us – e-mail for Rev Mack only
music@wcumc.us – for Karen Leonard, Music Minister
sarah.laflamme@gmail.com – for Sarah Laflamme, Christian Ed Director
treasurer@wcumc.us – for Bill Benedum, Church Treasurer
trustees@wcumc.us – for the Trustees
- **Items for the church bulletin insert are due in the church office by Wednesday morning.**
- Items for the monthly Newsletter are due in the church office on the **third Monday of each month**. All articles must be signed.
- Church website: www.wcumc.us

Memorial Day Observance



The church office will be closed on Monday, May 27, 2019.

Prayer List



In the Sunday bulletin under “Let us remember these people in our prayers,” we list those with more acute needs. Our Monthly Newsletter carries a list of more “on-going” concerns to bring to God in Prayer.

We will keep the description you provide as general or specific as you indicate. Please let us know what you would like included. We also encourage you to clip out these names and keep them in your prayers.

If you would like your name to be added or removed from any of the prayer lists, please contact the church office.

It's never too late for a note, a card, or a call.



Those who are at home or in nursing homes:

Edna Macpherson – At home
Lenore Reynolds – Sunny Acres, Chelmsford
Lorraine Anderson – 2 Technology Dr., N Chelmsford
Mitzi Curry – D'Youville Senior Care Center, 981 Varnum Ave. Lowell

Prayer list for on-going health needs:

Ken Weinbeck
Judi Hill
Jen Weinbeck's friends, Mike and Sarah
Margaret Wilkinson's niece, Julie
Rebecca Markey's brother, Dennis Woodruff

Save the Date
September 28, 2019 from 2:00 to 5:00 PM
A Time to Say Thanks and Honor
Karen Leonard's 50 Years of Service



Please join us on September 28th as we honor Karen for 50 years of service as our Minister of Music at West Chelmsford United Methodist Church. Thanks to Karen, we are all blessed with many different types of inspiring music at each of our worship services. It is impossible to know how many lives have been touched by her directing, playing, teaching, and personal attention. Come and celebrate with us.

Staff Parish Relations Committee



Dear WCUMC family,

I would like to thank you all for your support during these past few years while my Mom, Pat Rienstra, had been in a nursing home. It meant so much to me to know that she was still thought of by her church family. Also, thank you for your kind words, cards, and expressions of sympathy during her passing. A special thank you to Reverend Mack for a wonderful service.

Carolyn Higgins

Opportunities for Summer Camp Programs

There is 2019 summer camp information for Camp Aldersgate, Wanakee, and Mechuwana on the table in the entry to fellowship hall. These are three of our United Methodist camps offering summer programs. There are many opportunities that these camps have to offer for summer programs and other spiritual formation events.



Church Camping Trip

This year our church camping trip will be August 30th - September 2nd (Labor Day weekend). Our plan is to return to Gilson Pond Campground at Monadnock State Park in Jaffrey, New Hampshire. If you would like to attend the camping trip, please contact Roberta or Jim Stratton (roberta@strattonringers.com or jim@strattonringers.com) for more information.





Save This Date!

Our Annual Rummage sale will be held on **Thursday, October 24th** to **Saturday, October 26th**. Thursday, **10/24**, is an Early Bird Sale Night from **7-9 pm** with a **\$5/person** Admission Fee. No admission fee hours are Friday, **10/25**, from **10 am-2 pm & 7-9 pm** and Saturday, **10/26**, from **10 am-2 pm**. Saturday continues to be \$2/bag! **Please start saving now!** We sell good, **clean, usable** clothes, linens, housewares, and toys (please, if you would throw it away, we probably will too!). We do not sell textbooks, large furniture, TVs, computers, paint, microwaves, or exercise equipment/skis (these items cost the church money to dispose of, so please do not leave them.)

Please consider volunteering your time to help us setup, run, and particularly clean up after the sale. Just an hour or two of your time, especially on Saturday, 10/26 for Clean Up, would be greatly appreciated. To volunteer, or for any questions, please contact Andi Hoff at ahoff@hoffcpa.com or at 978-455-3005.

From the Lay Leadership Committee



If you have not already filled out a “Lay Leadership insert” and would either like to be on a church committee or continue serving, there are inserts on the table in the entry to the sanctuary. On this insert there are also other opportunities to help serve your church. These may be instead of or in addition to serving on a committee. Remember that God gives us all gifts and talents that can be used in God’s work through the church. Please feel free to take one and drop it in the offering plate or leave it in the church office. Thank you

Rev. Mack

Save These Dates

May 4th – Women’s Retreat @ Rivier University

May 4th – Out Door Movie Night

(Starts with a potluck dinner at 6pm – outdoor movie starting at 7:30pm)

May 11th – Faith Works Day

May 18th – Chocolate Lovers Night





Open Pantry Donations

Please remember to bring a food donation for the Open Pantry. And remember to sign up for the St. Paul's meal at the Eliot Presbyterian Church in Lowell on Wednesday, May 22nd.

From Our Finance Committee

Just a Reminder: Please remember to bring your church pledge up-to-date.

Thank you!



Submission Deadline

...for the **June 2018 Newsletter** is:
May 21, 2018

Please leave your articles in the church office, or email to office@wcumc.us



2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 7:00pm-Christan Ed 7:00pm-LSUMC 7:30pm-Festival Ringers 7:30pm-LSUMC Music	2 6:30pm-Children Choir 7:00pm-Lay Leadership Com. 7:30pm-Senior Choir	3 7:00pm-Cub Scout Pack 70 meeting	4 9:00am-Women's Retreat @ Rivier 6:00pm-Potluck 7:30pm-Outdoor Movie
5 9:30am-Worship & Nursery Care 9:30am-Sunday School 10:30am-Fellowship 11:00am-Celebration Ringers & Singers 4:00pm-Boy Scout Leaders 7:00pm-LSUMC	6 4:00pm-Girl Scouts 7:30pm-Evangelism 7:30pm-A.A. 7:30pm-Boy Scouts	7 7:00pm-Missions	8 6:30pm-Den Mtg. 7:00pm-LSUMC 7:30pm-Festival Ringers 7:30pm-LSUMC Music	9 6:30pm-Children Choir 7:30pm-Lay Leadership Com. 7:30pm-Senior Choir	10 6:30pm-Pack 70 Den Meeting 7:00pm-Pack 70 Bear Den Meeting	11 <i>Faith Works</i> 8:30am-Meet at Church Light breakfast
12 9:30am - Worship & Nursery Care 9:30am-Sunday School 10:30am- Fellowship 4:00pm-Boy Scout Leaders 7:00pm-LSUMC	13 4:00pm-Girl Scouts 7:30pm-Finance 7:30pm-Trustees 7:30pm - A.A. 7:30pm-Boy Scouts	14 7:30pm-Staff/Parish	15 6:30pm-Den Mtg. 7:00pm-LSUMC 7:30pm-Festival Ringers 7:30pm-LSUMC Music	16 7:30pm-Lay Leadership Com. 7:30pm-Senior Choir	17	18 6:30pm-Missions Committee Chocolate Lovers Night
19 9:30am-Worship Baccalaureate Service & Nursery Care 9:30am-Sunday School 10:30am- Fellowship 1:30pm-MVR 4:00pm-Boy Scout Leaders 7:00pm-LSUMC	20 4pm-Girl Scouts 7:30pm-Council on Ministries 7:30pm - A.A. 7:30pm-Boy Scouts	21 7:30pm-Church Growth & Stewardship Focus Group	22 St. Paul's Meal 7:00pm-LSUMC 7:30pm-Festival Ringers 7:30pm-LSUMC Music	23 7:30pm-Lay Leadership Com. 7:30pm-Senior Choir	24 6:30pm-Pack 70 Den Meeting 7:00pm-Pack 70 Bear Den Meeting	25

<p>26 9:30am-Worship & Nursery Care Intergenerational Mission Day 10:30am- Fellowship 4:00pm-Boy Scout Leaders 7:00pm-LSUMC</p>	<p>27 Office Closed  7:30pm-A.A.</p>	<p>28 7:00pm-Divine Readers 7:30pm-Website Committee</p>	<p>29 7:00pm-LSUMC 7:30pm-LSUMC Music</p>	<p>30 7:30pm-Lay Leadership Com. 7:30pm-Senior Choir</p>		
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