The Messenger

First & Wesley
United Methodist Church
89 Center Street
West Haven, Connecticut 06516
203-933-8795



May 2022



Try to call God the Mother, and you may feel awkward. In fact, God is beyond gender, neither male nor female, but we have traditionally called God *Heavenly Father*. I think that if God is expressed with the metaphor *father*, it must also be possible to describe God as the metaphor *mother*.

I sometimes feel God is like my father, who emphasized the discipline of his children, and other times God is like my mother, who was generous toward her children. However, each of us has different experiences of our parents. For example, those who had been abused by their fathers/mothers may not have good feelings as they call God

the Father/Mother. Therefore, it is not right to say, "This is the only way to call God."

I am not saying that all of us should call God the Mother, but that we may use any metaphor based on our own experiences. I often feel the Holy Spirit, the Sustainer, like my mother, who was quiet and patient, who was gentle but strong inside, and who was not spectacular but wise. In addition, she was always with me, especially when I was in difficulties. So, I call the Holy Spirit God the Mother, while I say God the Father the Creator and God the Son the Redeemer. As we celebrate Mother's Day, I wanted to recognize the mothering God.

Because of scientific and technological advances, we live a convenient life, but we have lost a lot of precious things, as well. One of them is the intimate relationship with our parents. We used to be faithful to the Bible verses, like "Honor your father and your mother, so that your days may be long in the land that the LORD your God is giving you" (Exodus 20:12) or "Children, obey your parents in everything, for this is pleasing to the Lord" (Colossians 3:20).

I would like to remind you that you may not have much time to be with your mother. Time goes fast, and when you want to treat her well, you may not see her again in the world. It may be too late when you realize that your mom has passed away. And if your mother has already died, recall what she said to you, and what she wanted you to do. And remember her instructions in your life and tell your children about her. Your mother will be resurrected through your life and your children's lives.

As we celebrate Mother's Day on May 8th, let us express our gratitude to our mothers: Thank you, mom! You are great! Happy Mothers' Day!

Lectionary Readings for May 2022

May 1, 2022

• Acts 9:1-6, (7-20) • Psalm 30 • Revelation 5:11-14 • John 21:1-19

May 8, 2022

• Acts 9:36-43 • Psalm 23 • Revelation 7:9-17 • John 10:22-30

May 15, 2022

• Acts 11:1-18 • Psalm 148 • Revelation 21:1-6 • John 13:31-35

May 22, 2022

• Acts 16:9-15 • Psalm 67 • Revelation 21:10, 22-22:5 • John 14:23-29 or John 5:1-9

May 29, 2022

• Acts 16:16-34 • Psalm 97 • Revelation 22:12-14, 16-17, 20-21 • John 17:20-26

Prayer Shawl Ministry First and Wesley United Methodist

Our Prayer Shawl group will be meeting on Thursday May 12th at 1 PM.

Home of Linda Kopec. 124 Bluff Ave. (203)804-2522.

All are welcome to join us.

We have shawls in the Church Office.

Please let Edith Mulligan or Linda Kopec know if you would like to pick one up.

On Sunday May 29th we will have a prayer shawl blessing with Pastor Lee during morning worship.

Native American Ministries Sunday

On Sunday, May 1, 2022 First & Wesley United Methodist Church will be honored to celebrate Native American Ministries Sunday. We will be fortunate to have our own Shadow Walker (Walter Clinton) and his lovely wife Fire Fly (Myrna Clinton) leading the worship. We will celebrate the day with a special selection of Native American Hymns.







May

2022

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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
*All Worship Services are in-pe	rson and streamed	d live (via Zoom).				
*Zoom Link for All Worship Ser https://zoom.us/j/147691027 / C				hildren's Sunday School):		
1 Native American Ministries Sunday	2 7p Monday	3	4	5 10:30-11:30 Koinonia Café	6	7 8-12p Pancake Day &
9:30 Worship & Communion Birthday/Anniversary Celebration 1p Children's Sunday School 3:30p CT District Conference	Adult School			6p Bell Choir Rehearsal 7p Adult Choir Rehearsal		Plants/Books/Baked Goods Sale
8 Mother's Day 10:30 Family Worship Service 1p Children's Sunday School	9 7p Monday Adult School	10 7p Finance Meeting	11 7p Group Study	12 10:30-11:30 Koinonia Café 1p Prayer Shawl Meeting at Linda Kopec's home 6p Bell Choir Rehearsal 7p Adult Choir Rehearsal	13	14
15 10:30 Family Worship Service 11:40 Church Council Meeting (in-person & online) 2p Children's Sunday School	16 7p Monday Adult School	17 6:30p Missions & Outreach Meeting	18 7p Group Study	19 10:30-11:30 Koinonia Café 6p Bell Choir Rehearsal 7p Adult Choir Rehearsal	20 *Messenger Articles Due	21
 10:30 Family Worship Service Baptism 1p Children's Sunday School 	23 7p Monday Adult School	24 7p Trustees Meeting	25 7p Group Study	26 10:30-11:30 Koinonia Café 6p Bell Choir Rehearsal 7p Adult Choir Rehearsal	27	28
10:30 Family Worship Service Blessing of Prayer Shawls 1p Children's Sunday School	30 Memorial Day 7p Monday Adult School	31		'	,	·

^{*} For further updates, visit www.firstwesleyumc.org.



"Children's Easter Craft & Egg Hunt" @ First & Wesley UMC, April 9, 2022

Wednesday Group Study

April 27th our study returned with Chapter 17 of "**BELIEVE**" by Randy Frazee led by Rev. Cynthia Dodd. In May we continue the study of ten key beliefs, ten key practices and ten key virtues of Christianity grounded in artfully selected scripture passages.

BELIEVE is a spiritual growth experience that takes you on a journey to think, act, and become more like Jesus. The Bible is more than just a book of stories. It's a blueprint for living. Everyone is welcome to come and enjoy great discussion and fellowship.



The Easter Cross on the First & Wesley UMC ground

May Birthdays

- 6 John Poe III Nana Osei-Sappong
- 7 Geoffrey Hulse
- 8 Jodi Memmott
- 10 Ralph Lawson III
- 12 Alisha Braacker
- 17 Rachael Memmott
- 19 Cindy Geissler
- 20 Audie Jackson
- 21 Steven Rockwell Al Bartozzi
- 22 Sungmu Lee
- 27 Mary Rolfe
- 28 Douglas Hunter
- 30 Garrett Argentino

May Anniversaries

- 3 Israel and Hyacinth Young
- 5 Michele and Edward Gertsch
- 16 Elaine and Matt Schwag
- 18 Hyeonjin Kim and Sungmu Lee Gail Pells & Fred Rubino

If you do not see your birthday or anniversary listed, please let the church office know so we can update our list and make sure you are not missed.

If you would like to include someone for birthdays or anniversaries, please see below. Example- name change, address change, marriage, birth, death, etc. Email: firstwesleyumc@gmail.com or send to church office.

Native American Pennies Collection

We continue to collect pennies for the Native American Ministries even though the Pandemic has slowed things down. We would like to send many thanks to our Church Family for helping us to continue with this Ministry.

Native American Ministries Sunday is on May 1st.
Join us for our 10:30 worship service as we lift up and celebrate our Native American sisters and brothers through worship and music.



Please join us to learn about God's love. In the month of May we will continue to learn about stories from Jesus' life. We listen to stories, make art projects, peek into a Wonder Box, sing songs, and spend time together on Zoom. Materials will be ready for you to pick up each Saturday.

*** Change of time for May 27 - 2:00

- Sunday School starts at 1:00 on Zoom.
- E-mail or call Gail Bartozzi (gbartozzi@yahoo.com or text (203)747-6039) for questions about Sunday School.
- Register
 at http://www.firstwesleyumc.org/Children_
 &_Youth

The Craft Corner



We have some Get Well and Thinking of You cards. Contact Gail Bartozzi if you would like a card sent to someone or have questions about the group. You can call the church office or email Gail at gbartozzi@yahoo.com

Someone said that God gave us memories so that we might have roses in December.

J M Barrie"

Ways to support the Church with no cost to you!

Amazon Smíle

The church is now registered on Amazon Smile. Amazon Smile is a way for customers to support their favorite charitable organization every time they shop with Amazon. For the church to get the .5% from Amazon, make sure you start your shopping using

https://smile.amazon.com/ch/06-0681807. If you have any questions, please contact Helen Smith.

Stop & Shop Fundraíser (Gíft cards)

If you shop at Stop & Shop, please consider getting gift cards from Dave Smith (203-415-6092). Our church receives 5% of the value of the cards sold as a donation from Stop & Shop. Checks are made out to "Dave Smith".

ShopRite Fundraiser (Gift cards)



This program is the same as our Stop & Shop program. The church receives 4% for each card sold. If interested, call Helen Smith at 203-444-2362. Checks made payable to "FWUMC".

We appreciate your continued support!

Remember you would be spending money at these stores anyway and now the church can receive a percentage. Share with your family and friends this opportunity.

Graduates

Please let us know if you have a son or daughter, niece or nephew, or grandchildren graduating this year. We would love to celebrate their achievement in our June Messenger and recognize them in our June Sunday service. Please let the church office know their name, grade and where they are graduating from before Sunday, May 15th. (203-933-8795 or firstwesleyumc@gmail.com)

Pastors Discretionary Fund:

section.

Please consider giving a "Love Offering" to Pastor's discretionary fund. You may place your gift in the container on the back table of the sanctuary. If you wish to write a check to the church, please write "Pastor's Discretionary Fund" in the memo

Tell us if you have a member information change: example-name change, address change, marriage, birth, death, etc. Email: firstwesleyumc@gmail.com or send to the Church office

Being Alone in the Church

For those of you who need to go into the church, do not forget to sign in each time you enter the church. Trustees have implemented a new policy and a sign in sheet.

2022 contact numbers

Helen Smith 203-444-2362 Layleader Jim Stuhlman 203-435-1790 Trustee Chair Peggy Jerrell 203-641-0929 Church Council Chair Sungmu Lee 631-456-1713 Pastor

Adult Monday School Class

Class meets via Zoom each Monday evening from 7:00 p.m. to 7:45 p.m. (Check the church web site or e-mail announcements for the link.) We have enthusiastic, energetic, and enlightening discussions on topics designed to help us use our Christian faith in dealing with the challenges daily life brings. We are currently studying a four-part series on the parables of Jesus by the renowned pastor and author James W. Moore. We are currently studying the fourth book in the series Jesus' Parables About Making Choices. The topics studied in this book are "Choosing to Grow Up", "Choosing to be Humble", "Choosing to Listen", "Choosing to Help", "Choosing to Try" and "Choosing to Prepare". The class is open to anyone over the age of 0 and under the age of 275 that would like to join us. If you would like a copy of our study book or would like more information, please contact Thurmon Whitley.

We look forward to seeing you.

FROM THE LAYLEADER

The leadership committee met on April 19th. To simplify attending Zoom meetings, we will use the link below for all meetings. The only exceptions with be for SPR committee, Committee on Nominations and Leadership Development and Children's Sunday School - these will have their own individual Zoom link.

So, from now on we will use this link below for Worship services, Bible Study, Adult Monday School and all meetings except for those mentioned above.

Zoom Link: https://zoom.us/j/147691027 Call-in: 1-646-876-9923 Meeting ID: 147691027#

Koinonia Café is now in-person, not on Zoom on Thursdays from 10:00am-12pm

Lastly, as you know, our pastor, Sungmu Lee, is being appointed to a different church starting on July 1st of this year. This is totally unexpected. I hoped that we would be contacted before Easter as to who we would be getting as a pastor. I contacted the District Superintendent after Easter and asked why we had not heard who is going to be our pastor. As of this writing (4/20/2022), I have been told that we will have a pastor but there are no further details.

This is frustrating for not only me but also, I know it is frustrating for you. We need to remember the scripture form Romans 8:28 "And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to His purpose."

When we hear anything new, we will definitely let you know. Any questions, please contact me at 203-444-2362 (text or call) or driver-align: definitely let you know. Any questions, please contact me at 203-444-2362 (text or call) or driver-align: definitely let you know. Any questions, please contact me at 203-444-2362 (text or call) or driver-align: definitely let you know. Any questions, please contact me at 203-444-2362 (text or call) or driver-align: definitely let you know. Any questions, please contact me at 203-444-2362 (text or call) or driver-align: definitely let you know. Any questions, please contact me at 203-444-2362 (text or call) or driver-align: definitely let you know. Any questions, please contact me at 203-444-244-244.

Please mark your calendar for a special "Thank you for your Service" luncheon after church on June 5th to thank Sungmu and Hyeonjin for all they have done to strengthen and lead our church for the past 8 years.

A/V VOLUNTEERS

Thank you to all those who have volunteered to take on various jobs at the church. We could still use more for live streaming audio, video and PPT creating (templates provided). If you would like to help out in any area, training is provided. Contact Helen Smith if you wish to share your talent and/or learn a new skill to help the mission and ministry of First & Wesley!

Volunteers List

- Website: Jian Chan (Webmaster), Content editors—Mary Rolfe, Jim Stuhlman, Helen Smith
- Calendar (Google & Messenger): Peggy Jerrell
- Church email lists: Helen Smith
- Church YouTube Channel: Jian Chan
- Facebook: Peggy Jerrell, Jacki McKim, Mary Rolfe, Helen Smith, Jian Chan (only for video post)
- Live Streaming (video): Jian Chan, Abe McKim, Mary Rolfe, David Smith, Helen Smith
- Live Streaming (audio): Keshia Hammond, Taylor Hammond, Andrew Nevin, Jenny Werle,
- PowerPoint: Helen Smith, Mary Rolfe, Cynthia Dodd
- Design (event flyers/forms): Hanna Werle, Marissa deNicolo
- Attendance Report: Thurmon Whitley (Worship Services & Monday School),

Kathy Hulse (Wed. Bible Study), Gail Bartozzi (Sunday School)

UMCOR HYGIENE KITS

Thank you to everyone who donated items and cash toward the UMCOR (United Methodist Committee on Relief) Emergency Hygiene Kits mission project. We were able to bless and deliver 130 completed kits as well as two bags of extra supplies.

PARTNERSHIP WITH NATIVE AMERICANS

During May, to support Native American Ministries, our Missions & Outreach Committee would like to collect money to send to Partnership with Native Americans (PWNA) to support their "Breakfast in a Bag" program. This program breakfast supplies items such as which may include products such as eggs, sausage, bread, cereal, milk, and fruit to elders in need of food assistance.

STAY CONNECTED

Zoom Link for all Worship Services and meetings (exceptions – SPR, CNLD, Children's Sunday School)

Zoom Link: https://zoom.us/j/147691027
Call-in: 1-646-876-9923
Meeting ID: 147691027

Small Group studies:

Every Sunday – Children's Sunday School, 1 pm (on-line only) Every Monday – Adult Sunday School, 7 pm (on-line only) Every Wednesday – Bible Study, 7:30 pm (on-line only)

Meeting reminders:

Finance committee – Tuesday, May 10, 7pm (on-line only) Mission & Outreach – Tuesday, May 17, 7pm (on-line only) Trustees meeting – Tuesday, May 24, 7 pm (on-line only)

Finance Corner

First, I would like to thank everyone for their support! We are paid up on our apportionments as of this month and there are no outstanding obligations.

Thank you also for ordering potatoes and supporting our fundraisers. These fundraisers help support our Missions and Ministry in our community.

Our next fundraiser is the combined Pancake/Flowers & Plants/Baked Goods/Books on May 7th. I can't wait to see everyone!

"Upcoming Fund-Raising - May 2022:

Mother's Day - PANCAKE BREAKFAST with plants/books/baked goods sale In person! May 7th, 8am-12pm

Pancake Breakfast – 8 am to noon – cost \$10 adults, \$5 children ages 4-10, \$30 per family – includes all you can eat pancakes, sausage, fixings, coffee, tea, juice, and water.

We will also have a small variety of plants, and books, and baked goods for sale during the Pancake Breakfast. If you want to make sure you get what you like, there is a flyer to pre-order your flowers and vegetables in this newsletter. The orders need to be returned to Mary Rolfe (or entered online) no later than noon on May 2nd. We will be picking up the orders on May 4th. If there are some plants that you would like that are not on our order form, please contact us and we will see if we can get them for you.

Everyone is looking forward to getting out and enjoying Spring! We can't wait to help you get started on your planting!



PANCAKE DAY!

@ FIRST & WESLEY UMC

Sat., May 7, 2022 | 8 - 12 noon

Come for breakfast, brunch, or lunch

UNLIMITED PANCAKES!

(sausage, fixings, beverages included)

Donation - Adult: \$10; Kid (4-10): \$5

Family of 4+: \$30

Featuring:
spring plants
vegetable plants
hanging plants
baked goods
& books

Pre-order your plants by Sunday, May 1, 12pm

Call/text order: (203) 444-2362

Email order: fundraiser@firstwesleyumc.org
Online order: www.firstwesleyumc.org/plantsale

or return the order form to the church





Here is another way to support First & Wesley UMC. This is another way to support the church purchasing gift cards.

To make use of this fundraising tool, follow the directions below.

- 1. Join the program
 First, download the RaiseRight mobile app from the app store using your smartphone or tablet.
- 2. Tap on "Join a Program". Then, enter the enrollment code to join: L69BE9A369839
- 3. Set up your account
- 4. Buy gift cards and earn for your organization
- 5. Browse bonuses, search for a specific brand, shop categories, and more.
- 6. When you're ready to check out, sign up for secure online payments. You can link a bank account, add a credit card, or both. Do not select "Pay Coordinator directly"
- 7. The brand gives back to your organization the moment you buy a gift card
- 8. Get and use your gift cards
 - eGift cards are delivered to the app within minutes view them in your Wallet of the RaiseRight App
 - Physical gift cards can be mailed directly to you (Extra fee for shipping)

Many are reloadable so you can keep earning with the ones you have.

Pros to using this:

You get e-cards for use immediately

You can get physical gift cards sent directly to you.

*Please note – there is a fee associated with using this app

For e-cards

- If you link the account you set up to your bank account, there is a \$.15 charge per transaction
- If you use a credit card, there is a 2.6% charge per transaction

For physical cards

- Same fees as for e-cards plus a shipping charge to send to your address

Contact Helen Smith, 203-444-2362, if you have any questions.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!



www.free-for-kids.com



Baby Animals



PUPPY FOAL SPIDERLING

KITTEN CHICK TADPOLE

CALF FRY LAMB

PIGLET FAVN CUB

Clues may run forwards, backwards, diagonally, up or down. Some may overlap or even be backwards!

© www.free-for-kids.com 2010

Flower Fundraiser order form

(subject to availability)

ORDERS DUE BY MAY 1st, 12PM PICKUP ORDER ON MAY 7th, 8AM – 12PM (during Pancake Day)

Name:				
Phone number		e-mail		
	(Flat = 8 packs)	<u>#</u>	COST	<u>\$</u>
Tomatoes: Easy Girl		\$3 a pack(3 plants)	\$20 flat(24 plants)	
	Big Boy	\$3 a pack(3 plants)	\$20 flat(24 plants)	
Beefsteak Cherry Roma		\$3 a pack(3 plants)	\$20 flat(24 plants)	
		\$3 a pack(3 plants)	\$20 flat(24 plants)	
		\$3 a pack(3 plants)	\$20 flat(24 plants)	
Peppers:	Green Bell	\$3 a pack(3 plants)	\$20 flat(24 plants)	<u> </u>
Red I	Red Bull	\$3 a pack(3 plants)	\$20 flat(24 plants)	
	Jalapeno	\$3 a pack(3 plants)	\$20 flat(24 plants)	
FLOWERS	Color (if a	vailable)		
Age	eratum	\$3 a pack(4 plants)	\$20 flat(32 plants)	
Aste		\$3 a pack(4 plants)	\$20 flat(32 plants)	
Aly	ssum	\$3 a pack(4 plants)	\$20 flat(32 plants)	
Beg	gonias	\$3 a pack(4 plants)	\$20 flat(32 plants)	
Col	eus	\$3 a pack(4 plants)	\$20 flat(32 plants)	
Cosmos		\$3 a pack(3 plants)	\$20 flat(24 plants)	
Dah	nlias	\$3 a pack(4 plants)	\$20 flat(32 plants)	
Dia	nthus	\$3 a pack(4 plants)	\$20 flat(32 plants)	
Dusty Miller		\$3 a pack(4 plants)	\$20 flat(32 plants)	
	patiens	\$3 a pack(4 plants)	\$20 flat(32 plants)	
Lobelia		\$3 a pack(4 plants)	\$20 flat(32 plants)	
Marigolds		\$3 a pack(4 plants)	\$20 flat(32 plants)	
Nicotiana ———		\$3 a pack(4 plants)	\$20 flat(32 plants)	
Petu	unias	\$3 a pack(4 plants)	\$20 flat(32 plants)	
Port	tulaca	\$3 a pack(4 plants)	\$20 flat(32 plants)	
Salv	via	\$3 a pack(4 plants)	\$20 flat(32 plants)	
Ver	bena	\$3 a pack(4 plants)		
	aniums		20 ½ doz	
New Guinea Impatiens			20 ½ doz	
Vinca Vine		\$4 each \$2	20 ½ doz	
Spil	kes (if available)	\$4 each \$2	20 ½ doz	
			GRAND TOTAL	\$

Contact Mary Rolfe at 203-530-9858 (call or text) or <u>crazycrafts.mary@gmail.com</u> you have any questions no later than **May 1st at 12 PM**.



The Messenger

First & Wesley United Methodist Church 89 Center Street West Haven, CT 06516 Phone (203) 933-8795 www.firstwesleyumc.org

Email: firstwesleyumc@gmail.com

Facebook Page at www.facebook.com/firstwesleyumc.

Reverend Sungmu Lee

"Sunday Worship Time: 10:30am"

The May Newsletter

