

The Messenger

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

September 2022



*First Image from the James Webb Space Telescope
Credits: NASA, ESA, CSA, and STScI*

Have you ever heard of “James Webb”? It is a brand-new space telescope launched on December 25, 2021, by NASA along with space agencies of other countries. It arrived at its destination between the Sun and Earth in January 2022 and sent its first image on July 11, 2022. And then it continually sent many high-quality images of the universe, which we cannot get with the previous one – “Hubble Space Telescope.” The colors, shapes, and their combinations of the stars in these images are so marvelous. This is why astronomers and people who are interested in stars of the sky are so excited about the James Webb space telescope. This is because the universe is unexplainably wide and, in the universe, there are so many stars that we still cannot reach out with our human technology. According to the rough calculations of some astronomers, the total stars in the whole universe are much more than all grains of sand in beaches, grounds, and mountains on earth. *The universe embraces countless stars, and the sun is just a small one of the stars in the universe. We are living on the earth that belongs to the solar system of the Sun. It means that when we see ourselves in the perspective of the whole universe, we are extremely tiny like a grain of sand on the beach. Our existence is meaningless compared with the immense size of the universe. However here, there is a very important truth that we have to remember. It is the fact that God, the creator of the universe, loves us so much. God loves us who are so tiny in the universe that God created. So, God sent us his one and only Son Jesus Christ to save us. How wonderful it is! This proves our meaning and value in the universe. We are tiny in the universe, but we are huge in

the love of God. I hope you will remember this great truth that you are loved by God. I hope you will also share with others God's love.

“So, we have known and believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them.” - 1John 4:16

Pastor Jinha Choi

* Robert Krulwich, “Which Is Greater, The Number of Sand Grains On Earth or Stars In The Sky?”
NPR, <https://www.npr.org/sections/krulwich/2012/09/17/161096233/which-is-greater-the-number-of-sand-grains-on-earth-or-stars-in-the-sky>.

Lectionary Readings for September 2022



September 4, 2022

- Jeremiah 18:1-11 and Psalms 139:1-6, 13-18 • Deuteronomy 30:15-20 and Psalms 1 •
- Philemon 1:1-21 • Luke 14:25-33

September 11, 2022

- Jeremiah 4:11-12, 22-28 and Psalms 14 • Exodus 32:7-14 and Psalms 51:1-10 •
- 1 Timothy 1:12-17 • Luke 15:1-10

September 18, 2022

- Jeremiah 8:18-9:1 and Psalms 79:1-9 • Amos 8:4-7 and Psalms 113 •
- 1 Timothy 2:1-7 • Luke 16:1-13

September 25, 2022

- Jeremiah 32:1-3a, 6-15 and Psalms 91:1-6, 14-16 • Amos 6:1a, 4-7 and Psalms 146 •
- 1 Timothy 6:6-19 • Luke 16:19-31

Finance

Finance committee is looking for budget information from each committee.

We will be working on the budget starting at our next meeting on September 13, 2022.

Please send your request to Mary Rolfe, Finance Chair at
Mary.Kate527@icloud.com or call/text (203) 530-9858.

Spaghetti & Meatball Dinner

This year we will be having our dinner in person on October 1, 2022, at 5pm in Kendall Hall.

We will also be doing takeout for anyone who would prefer to have dinner to go.



First & Wesley United Methodist Church

September

2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>All Worship Services will be held both in-person and online (via Zoom). Worship Service begins at 11:00 am. All Worship Services and meetings – Link: https://zoom.us/j/147691027 / Call-in: 1-646-876-9923 *Meeting ID: 147691027# Koinonia Café is now in person.</p>						
				<p>1 10a–12p Koinonia Café 6p Bell Choir 7p Adult Choir</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>3 Westfest Old Grove 11 am to 4 pm</p>
<p>4 11:00a Family Worship with Communion & Birthday / Anniversary Celebration</p>	<p>5 <i>Labor Day</i></p>	<p>6 SPR 7pm (Zoom)</p>	<p>7</p>	<p>8 10a–12p Koinonia Café 1p In-person Prayer Shawl at Linda Kopec's home (124 Bluff Ave, West Haven) 6p Bell Choir 7p Adult Choir</p>	<p>9</p>	<p>10</p>
<p>11 11:00a Family Worship Service Sunday School begins</p>	<p>12 7p Adult Monday School</p>	<p>13 7p Finance</p>	<p>14 7p Adult Group Study</p>	<p>15 10a–12p Koinonia Café 6p Bell Choir 7p Adult Choir</p>	<p>16 6:30p Mission & Outreach (Zoom)</p>	<p>17</p>
<p>18 11a Family Worship Service & Sunday School 12:30pm Free Community Cook out & Ice Cream Social</p>	<p>19 7p Adult Monday School</p>	<p>20 <i>*Articles Due for the October Messenger</i> 6:30p Mission & Outreach</p>	<p>21 7p Adult Group Study</p>	<p>22 10a–12p Koinonia Café 6p Bell Choir 7p Adult Choir</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24</p>
<p>25 11:00a Family Worship Service & Sunday School 12 Noon Church Council</p>	<p>26 7p Adult Monday School</p>	<p>27 7p Trustees</p>	<p>28 7p Adult Group Study</p>	<p>22 10a–12p Koinonia Café 6p Bell Choir 7p Adult Choir</p>	<p>30</p>	<p>October 1 Spaghetti Fundraiser</p>

* For further updates, visit www.firstwesleyumc.org/events.

From The Layleader

I hope everyone had a great summer and you are raring to go! As we resume our regular scheduled activities starting on September 11th, below is a preview of things to come. Please look for details in the rest of this newsletter.

September 11 th , 11am	Family worship with in-person children's Sunday School
September 12 th , 7pm	Adult "Monday" School on Zoom - https://us02web.zoom.us/j/147691027
September 18 th , 11am	Sundae Sunday – 11am family worship followed by a community cookout with Sundaes
October 1 st , 5pm	Spaghetti and Meatball Dinner – In person and take out
October 2 nd , 11am	World Communion Sunday with cooperative Parish (Hamden Plains UMC)
October 31 st , 6-8pm	Halloween program for community children
November 5 th , 8am-3pm	Harvest Fair

Volunteers Needed

If you are already volunteering to do things, THANK YOU!!! To make all of our ministries, we rely on volunteers for our worship, mission and outreach. "Many hands make light work" is so true. Below is contact information if you can help out: (*means if we have enough volunteers, it would be once a month or so)

Flower Guild – Mary Anne Hawkes 203-933-1958

Coming into Thanksgiving & Christmas, MaryAnne would like to show someone the ropes who would be willing to be in charge of this. There are several people who can help out, but we need someone who to take the lead.

*Sunday School – Gail Bartozzi 203-747-6039

*Children's Sermon – Christine Chan 203-927-4679 or Helen Smith 203-444-2362

Christine or Helen would be happy to give you tips on where to find ideas

*Sound or camera operation for Worship – Helen Smith 203-444-2362

*PPT creation – Helen Smith 203-444-2362

Sundae Sunday – Peggy Jerrell 203-641-0929

Spaghetti Dinner – Mary Rolfe 203-530-9858

Halloween program - Christine Chan 203-927-4679

Harvest Fair – Mary Rolfe 203-530-9858

Again, thank you for sharing your time and talents!

Helen



**Spaghetti & Meatballs
Fundraiser**

Sat. Oct. 1, 2022

In person and takeout!

**Dinner will be served at 5pm
in Kendall Hall.**

First & Wesley UMC

89 Center St West Haven

Cost \$12 adults \$5 kids

**order at 203-530-9858 or
crazycrafts.mary@gmail.com**





Prayer Shawl Ministry First and Wesley United Methodist

Our Prayer Shawl group will be meeting for lunch Thursday September 9^h at Linda Kopec's house 124 Bluff Ave. (203)804-2522.



Our shawls are in the Church Office if someone needs one. Be sure to sign your name and the person it will go to. You can also contact Linda Kopec or Edith Mulligan if you would like to pick one up.

Our Prayer Shawl Ministry has been a success thanks to these women: Susan Hackett, Amy and Joan Sablon, Linda Kopec, Edith Mulligan, and Sharon Ewen.



Anyone wishing to join is more than welcome to come. The more the merrier. You can knit from home and if you want to contribute money for yarn, please get in touch with Linda Kopec 203-821-7533.

All are welcome to join us.

 **KOINONIA CAFÉ**
& FIRST & WESLEY UMC

Free Coffee & Refreshments

OPEN TO COMMUNITY!

THURSDAYS, 10 AM - 12 PM

 **First & Wesley United Methodist Church**
89 Center St., West Haven, CT 06516
(203) 933-8795 • firstwesleyumc@gmail.com
www.firstwesleyumc.org

September Birthdays

- 5 - Sharon Stuhlman
- 6 - Tom Baker
- 10 - Evelyn Brandt-Arhin
- 14 - Nana Dondorful-Amos
- 16 - Shelby Poe-Argentino
Laurie Simone
- 18 - Richard Pyrdol, Jr.
Kathy Hulse
- 20 - Nicole Danz
- 25 - Paakow Amos
- 30 - Jamie Jerrell

September Anniversaries

- 8 - Wilma and Thurman Whitley
- 17 - Mary Ann and David Hawkes
- 27 - Barbara and Matt Heafy

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.

Pastors Discretionary Fund:

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 section.

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.

Have you visited our Church Website lately? It is truly beautiful and informative. The Church calendar is updated as needed and you can check on dates and times of meetings and events. Website is firstwesleyumc.org Check it out!

Ways to support the Church with no cost to you!

Amazon Smile

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 Fundraiser (Gift 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.

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
Jinha Choi	973-590-7525	Pastor

Church Attendance

	<u>2021</u>	<u>2022</u>
May (Wkly Ave.)	64	72
June (Wkly Ave.)	63	70.5
July	66	63

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.

Adult Monday School

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 will be resuming on **Monday, September 12**. We are beginning a new book, *Good Enough*, by Kate Bowler and Jessica Richie. From the flyleaf of the book the authors “offer fortyish short spiritual reflections on how we can make sense of life not as a pursuit of endless progress but as a chronic condition. This book is a companion for when you want to stop feeling guilty that you’re not living your best life now.” The book “grants permission to all those who need to hear that there are some things you can fix – and some things you can’t.” Our 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.



Celebrate Wonder

It's time for Sunday School. We will begin Sunday, September 11th. Children will attend Sunday school during part of the service. They will go to their classrooms with their Sunday School teachers following the Children's Moment. Please join us to learn about God's love. We listen to stories, make art projects, peek into a Wonder Box, sing songs, and spend time together.

- E-mail or call Gail Bartozzi (gbartozzi@yahoo.com or text (203)747-6039) for questions about Sunday School
- Register for Sunday School <https://www.firstwesleyumc.org/ministries/childrens-ministry/>

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 e-mail Gail at gbartozzi@yahoo.com

Adult Group Study



Every Wednesday 7pm via ZOOM (Starting Sep. 14)

This fall, our Bible lessons follow the theme of “Freedom.” The lessons explore the concept of salvation and God’s gracious acts in redeeming us. They challenge we who have experienced God’s gracious salvation to work for freedom and justice on behalf of others. They acknowledge that as we do, we will encounter those whose beliefs and values are different from our own, so they encourage us to remain faithful to our beliefs while we act as neighbors to others.

Youth Group Returns Back!



Every Sunday 5pm at church
(in-person, Starting Sep. 11):

- Praising Time
- Bible Study
- Game, Movie, Talking, Craft, Snack and more!



Music Ministry News

It is that time of year again where our choirs will begin rehearsing and preparing music for Sunday services. We are in need of more singers and ringers, so if you are interested in learning to play handbells or singing with the adult choir, please contact Christine Chan (203) 927-4679. If you have any children (ages 6-11) who would like to sing with the Youth Choir, please contact Helen Smith (203) 444-2362. We welcome anyone who is interested in making music, regardless of skill level or experience! We look forward to another year of making music in praise to our Lord!

In Harmony,

Christine Chan, Music Director



Worship Committee News

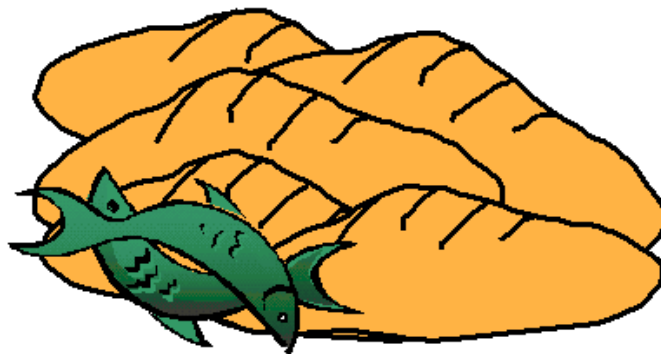
We have many ministries and working parts to each Sunday worship service in our church! We are always happy to have more people serve in some way that helps our worship services and programs continue to thrive and be a blessing to those who walk through our church doors. We currently have a need for more people who are willing to learn to do the following: Children's moments, Sound, Video, and Acolytes. Please contact Christine Chan (203) 927-4679 if you are interested (or even curious!) to learn more about any of these ways to serve so our weekly services can continue to thrive.

In Christ,

Christine Chan, Worship Committee Chair

Jesus Feeds 5000 Crossword

Word List:
 baskets boat
 disciples boy
 bread healed
 hungry miracle
 thousand twelve



Across

- Jesus used this persons small lunch to feed five thousand.
- Jesus performed this on the boy's lunch and still does them today.
- This is how many baskets of food were left over.
- One of the other miracles Jesus did that day was that he ____ people.

Down

- Five ____ people followed Jesus just to listen to Him and be healed.
- Jesus filled enough of these to feed all the people.
- The ____ doubted how they would feed all the people.
- This was Jesus and the disciples' transportation that day.
- The boy had 2 small fish and 5 pieces of ____ in his lunch.
- Everyone was ____ that's why Jesus performed the miracle.



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www.firstwesleyumc.org

Email : firstwesleyumc@gmail.com

Facebook Page at www.facebook.com/firstwesleyumc.

Pastor Jinha Choi

“Sunday Worship Time: 11:00am”

The September Newsletter

STRONGER TOGETHER



“We can do all things
through Christ who strengthens us.”
(Philippians 4:13)

IN-PERSON & ONLINE SUNDAY WORSHIP @ 11:00 AM

COME JOIN OUR CHURCH FAMILY!