

The Messenger

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



March 2024



The Season of Resurrection

Spring is coming. Beginning in March, we can feel that spring season is slowly but surely approaching. Temperatures rise steadily and the colors of nature change accordingly. Trees produce new leaves and flowers bloom with buds. The frozen streams flow lively again. This is how nature revives in the spring. Looking at it like this, it is probably no coincidence that Easter falls in the spring. “Hymn of Promise (UMH 707),” which is one of my favorite hymns, sings a paradox of death and resurrection through the vitality of spring.

1. In the bulb there is a flower; in the seed, an apple tree;
in cocoons, a hidden promise: butterflies will soon be free!
In the cold and snow of winter there's a spring that waits to be,
unrevealed until its season, something God alone can see.
2. There's a song in every silence, seeking word and melody;
there's a dawn in every darkness bringing hope to you and me.
From the past will come the future; what it holds, a mystery,
unrevealed until its season, something God alone can see.
3. In our end is our beginning; in our time, infinity;
in our doubt there is believing; in our life, eternity.
In our death, a resurrection; at the last, a victory,
unrevealed until its season, something God alone can see.

Spring is coming after winter. We know it and we will soon see it also this year too. In the death is the resurrection. Jesus Christ proved it and we will experience it in our faithful journey. In this spring season, I hope that we all contemplate Jesus' suffering, death, and resurrection just as we feel spring coming to life after the winter.

Pastor Jinha Choi
First & Wesley United Methodist Church

Lectionary Readings for March 2024

March 3, 2024

- [Exodus 20:1-17](#) • [Psalm 19](#) •
- [1 Corinthians 1:18-25](#) • [John 2:13-22](#)



March 10, 2024

- [Numbers 21:4-9](#) • [Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22](#) •
- [Ephesians 2:1-10](#) • [John 3:14-21](#)

March 17, 2024

- [Jeremiah 31:31-34](#) • [Psalm 51:1-12](#) or [Psalm 119:9-16](#) •
- [Hebrews 5:5-10](#) • [John 12:20-33](#)

March 24, 2024

- [Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29](#) • [Mark 11:1-11](#) or [John 12:12-16](#)
- [Isaiah 50:4-9a](#) • [Psalm 31:9-16](#) • [Philippians 2:5-11](#) •
- [Mark 14:1-15:47](#) or [Mark 15:1-39, \(40-47\)](#)

March 31, 2024

- [Acts 10:34-43](#) or [Isaiah 25:6-9](#) • [Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24](#) •
- [1 Corinthians 15:1-11](#) or [Acts 10:34-43](#) • [John 20:1-18](#) or [Mark 16:1-8](#)

Memorial Dedication

At our church service on February 18, 2024, we dedicated two oak candlelighter stands to hold our candlelighters in memory of Grace Latham, Delores Egan (mother of Brian Egan), Ruth Maxim, Jacqueline Eastmond, Anne Marie Kozlowski, Alice Henriques (Jacob Jerrell's great grandmother), Harriet Lawson, Marlene Lawson, Lori Hollister (sister of Tom Hollister) and Esther and Frank Armour (grandparents of Tom Hollister).



Wednesday Night Bible Study

“Our Wednesday night Bible Study on “The Chosen” will be on the first Wednesday in March (March 6th) For the rest of March we are taking a break until April when we will resume “The Chosen” Season 2, viewing and discussing one episode each week. We hope you can join us on Zoom!”



First & Wesley United Methodist Church

2024

March

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2 10a Worship
3 11:00a Family Worship Service, Communion, Birthday/Anniversary celebration and Sunday School (begins after Children's Sermon) 12:30p "The Chosen" viewing	4 7p Adult Monday school	5 7p Healing Prayer Service in sanctuary	6 7p Adult Group Study – "The Chosen"	7 10a–12p "K" Café 5p Youth Choir 6p Bell Choir 7p Adult Choir	8 7p Mission & Outreach	9
10 UMCOR Sunday 11:00a Family Worship Service & Sunday School (begins after Children's Sermon) Jr Choir sings	11 7p Adult Monday school 7p Cooperative Parish Council	12 7p Finance	13 No Bible Study	14 10a–12p "K" Café 5p Youth Choir 6p Bell Choir 7p Adult Choir	15	16 9 :30-10 :30 Crafts 5p Agape Meal (Free) All Welcome
17 St Patrick's Day UMCOR Sunday 11:00a Family Worship Service & Sunday School (begins after Children's Sermon) Easter Flower order due	18 7p Adult Monday school	19 7p Trustees	20 No Bible Study <i>*Articles Due for the April Messenger</i>	21 10a–12p "K" Café 1p Prayer Shawl at Edith Mulligan's home 5p Youth Choir 6p Bell Choir 7p Adult Choir	22 7p Taskforce on Zoom	23 9:00-11:30a Community Breakfast & Easter Egg hunt 1p Memorial Service
24 Palm Sunday 11:00a Family Worship Service & Sunday School (begins after Children's Sermon)	25 No Adult Monday School Bishop's visit in Danbury TBA	26 5p Youth Choir 6p Bell Choir 7p Adult Choir	27 No Bible Study	28 Maundy Thursday 10a–12p "K" Café 7p Maundy Service	29 Good Friday 7p Good Friday Service	30
31 Easter He is Risen! 11:00a Family Worship Service Welcome New Members						

For more information go to the church website at www.firstwesleyumc.org

LENT

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat



2/14

2/15

2/16

2/17

1 John 1:5

+2 cents for each candle in your home

Gal. 5:22-23

+1 cent for each piece of fruit in your house

Luke 8:11-15

+2 cents for every plant in your house

Psalm 150

+10 cents for every musical instrument in your house

2/18

2/19

2/20

2/21

2/22

2/23

2/24

First Sunday
In Lent

Matthew 11:15

+25 cents if you do not wear a hearing aid

Rev. 3:20

+3 cents for each door in your house

Matthew 6:21

+25 cents if you have a healthy heart

Rev. 1:7

+10 cents if you wear glasses
+25 cents if you do NOT!

Proverbs 22:6

+5 cents for each of your children

Proverbs 17:6

+10 cents for each of your grandchildren

2/25

2/26

2/27

2/28

2/29

3/1

3/2

Second Sunday
In Lent

Rev. 21:4

+5 cents for each box of Kleenex in your home

John 6:48

+5 cents for every loaf of bread in your house

Romans 13:8

+5cents for each credit card you own

1 Peter 2:21

+1 cent for each step in your house

Mark 6:56

+2 cents for each coat you own

Psalm 51:7

+10 cents if it snowed today
+25 cents if it did not snow today

3/3

3/4

3/5

3/6

3/7

3/8

3/9

Third Sunday
In Lent

Psalm 20:7

+15 cents for each car you own or lease

Psalm 23:2

+25 cents if you wore green today!

Joshua 2:21

+2 cents for each window in your home

1 Cor. 13:12

+ 5 cents for each mirror in your home

Ecclesiastes 3:1

+1 cent for each DVD or videotape you own

John 13:5

+1 cent for each towel in your home

2024

LENT

3/10

Fourth Sunday
In Lent

3/11

2 Kings 4:9-10
+2 cents for each
chair in your
home

Tue
3/12

Ecclesiastes 11:3
+ 25 cents if it
was cloudy today

Wed
3/13

Eph. 6:17
+ 5 cents for each
bike helmet
+50 cents if you
own a bike but do
NOT have a
helmet!

Thu
3/14

II Cor. 3:3
+ 1 cent for each
pen in your home

Fri
3/15

Matthew 16:19
+2 cents for each
key in your pocket
or purse

Sat
3/16

Psalms 45:7
+25 cents for each
bottle of oil

3/17

Fifth Sunday
In Lent

3/18

Exodus 20:12
+25 cents if your
parents are still
alive

3/19

Mark 14:3
+4 cents for each
bottle of perfume
that you own

3/20

Titus 1:3
+4 cents for every
clock or watch
you own

3/21

I Cor. 9:24
+3 cents for every
medal or trophy in
your home

3/22

John 14:2
+3 cents for each
room in your
home

3/23

Matthew 5:13
+1 cent for each
spice in your
cupboard

3/24

Sixth Sunday
In Lent

3/25

Hebrews 4:12
+1 cent for each
knife in your
home

3/26

Psalms 4:8
+5 cents for each
bed in your home

3/27

John 4:14
+10 cents if you
drank water today
+25 cents if you
did not

3/28

Proverbs 3:3-4
+1 cent for each
year you've been
married

3/29

Romans 13:7
+10 cents if you
sent your taxes
already
+30 cents if you
haven't done that

3/30

John 3:16
PAID IN FULL!

4/12

Christ is Risen!
Alleluia!



*Please count your
coins and place a
check with the
amount you
collected in the
offering!*

*All money
collected will be
donated to
WHEAT.*

2024

Holy Week Services

Please Join us for the following services:

Palm Sunday:	March 24th at 11:00am
Maundy Thursday:	March 28th at 7:00pm
Good Friday:	March 29th at 7:00pm
Easter Sunday:	March 31st at 11:00am

Women of 1st and Wesley United Methodist Church:

Some women from 1st and Wesley have been attending United Methodist Women regional meetings, now called **United Women of Faith**, held at Mary Taylor United Methodist Church, on the green in Milford. Here are the meetings for the next few months--

- Tuesday, March 4th at 7:00 p.m.
- Tuesday, April 11 at Noon
- Tuesday, May 9th at 6:30pm Mother-Daughter Dinner

All meetings are held in Dodd Hall, behind the Sanctuary, at Mary Taylor United Methodist Church, on the green in Milford. You may bring a lunch to the noon meetings. Drinks are provided. Chris McGregor and Deb Dubien are co-chairs.

United Women of Faith purpose statement:

"The organized unit of United Women of Faith, (Formerly United Methodist Women) shall be a community of women whose purpose is to know God and to experience freedom as whole persons through Jesus Christ; to develop a creative, supportive fellowship, and to expand concepts of mission through participation in the global ministries of the church."

No moneys from the church budget go toward supporting this group. If you need a ride or would like to car-pool, please contact Pastor Cindy Dodd at 203 933-7674.

Lay Leader Corner

Hello everyone! Welcome to 2024 – 2 months in already!

As the newest lay leader, I would like to introduce myself to those of you who may not know who I am. My name is Mary Rolfe (aka Mary Hickman). My contact information is: cell phone (475) 988-7666; email – mary.kate527@icloud.com. The quickest way to connect with me is by texting me.

I am new at this position and am learning new skills every day. Please feel free to contact me with any questions, comments, and concerns you may have. I will be meeting with Pastor Choi early next week to discuss our church happenings for the next few months. I will also be attending all meetings in March to learn what everyone is doing. In April, I am planning to gather all leaders for a meeting.

Thank you for reading! Cheerfully in Christ, Mary

Columbus House Collection

Myrna and Mary delivered your gracious donations of socks, underwear, etc. to Columbus House on Wednesday, February 21, 2024. They met with Sherry, who accepted the donation with a grateful heart. Sherry also talked with them about other ways we can help Columbus House with our time and our talents. We will be bringing those ideas to the next Missions and Outreach meeting and getting Sherry to talk to the committee. Thank you to all who were able to contribute! Columbus House has been receiving your grace and assistance for over 17 years!



The United Methodist Committee on Relief – UMCOR

We are taking a collection for UMCOR on March 10th. As the humanitarian relief and development arm of The United Methodist Church, **the United Methodist Committee on Relief – UMCOR provides aid** to those who suffer from natural or human-caused disasters – famine, hurricane, war, flood, fire, or other events—to alleviate suffering and serve as a source of help and hope for the vulnerable. UMCOR provides relief, response, and long-term recovery grants when events overwhelm a community’s ability to recover on their own. UMCOR also provides technical support and training for partners to address emerging and ongoing issues related to disaster relief, recovery, and long-term health and development. Please consider a donation of any amount.

Altar Guild - Flowers for Easter

Lent has started and we are looking forward to Holy Week and Easter Sunday.

As always, we will be ordering plants for the altar for Easter Sunday. The plants will be purchased and will be available for people to pick up after the Sunday morning service is over. There will be an order form in this messenger, online, in church, or I can provide one to you if needed. You can reach me on my cell phone at (475) 988-7666 via text or phone call. Thank you for your support in making our altar so beautiful at this holy time!

ORDERS FOR EASTER ALTAR FLOWERS 2024

I (we) wish to order _____ plants for the altar at a cost of \$11.00 each.

Please make checks payable to First & Wesley United Methodist Church and write “Flower Fund” in the memo section of the check.

PLEASE PRINT

IN MEMORY OF _____

OR IN HONOR OF _____

GIVEN BY _____

TELEPHONE # _____

PLANTS TO BE TAKEN HOME ON EASTER SUNDAY
**ORDERS MUST BE RECEIVED BY MARCH 19TH. PLEASE MAIL ORDER TO CHURCH,
OR PLACE IN THE OFFERING PLATE.**

March Birthdays

3 - Janet Francois (Lentini)
5 - Amy Sablone
7 - Timothy Geiger
9 - Jennifer Shove-Sisson
 Jeeyeon Park
11 - Nia Flippin
12 - Mason Argentino
19 - Karen McGregor
20 - Susan Cascio
24 - Alex Lynn Simone
27 - Doris Hunter
28 - Anna Bartozzi
29 - Rose Cook Ali
30 - David P Smith

March Anniversaries

1 - Jinha Choi and Jeeyeon Park

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. We would like to send many thanks to our Church Family for helping us to continue with this Ministry.

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!

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.



**Prayer Shawl Ministry
First and Wesley United
Methodist**

**Our next meeting will be March 21, 2024
1PM in person.**

Home of Edith Mulligan – 65 Messina Drive Apt A761 - East Haven, CT (203) 821-7533.

Our Prayer 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 Edith Mulligan – (203) 821-7533 or Linda Kopec – (203) 804-2522

Anyone wishing to join is more than welcome to come.

**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



Celebrate Wonder

It's time for Sunday School. 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 learn Bible stories, make art projects, sing songs, play games, 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/>

FROSTED SHAMROCK COOKIES ARE BACK!!!!!!

Below is an order form for Helen's famous cookies in Shamrock shape. On the form is the order deadline and information about when you can pick them up. Payment is due when you pick them up.

FROSTED SUGAR COOKIES ~ ST. PATRICK'S DAY (order by Sunday, March 10th)

Name _____ Phone _____

E-mail _____

(Cookies will be available for you to pick them up on Saturday, March 16th between 4-5pm or Sunday, March 17th after church.

TOTAL

___ 1/2 doz. shamrocks - \$6 frosting only..... _____

___ 1/2 doz. shamrocks - \$6 with Nonpariels _____

___ 1 doz. shamrocks - \$10 frosting only..... _____

___ 1 doz. shamrocks - \$10 with Nonpariels..... _____



POT PIE DINNER

Individual pie with salad
and dessert

Pick-up or Eat-in on April 6th

PICK-UP: 4-5PM

EAT-IN: 5PM

Place orders by April 1st



\$10 each for each dinner

Pick-up Eat-in (please check one)

NAME _____

PHONE # _____

E-MAIL _____

_____ Chicken Pot Pie dinner(s) @\$10 each

_____ Beef Pot Pie dinner(s) @10 each

TOTAL DUE _____

COMMUNITY CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST



Easter crafts,
photos* with Easter Bunny
& Egg Hunt



Ages 1-10

*Free photos with the Easter Bunny
(Please bring your own camera)

SATURDAY, March 23, 2024
BREAKFAST & CRAFTS: 9-11 AM
EASTER EGG HUNT: 11 AM

First & Wesley United Methodist Church
89 Center Street, West Haven, CT 06516
203.933.8795 firstwesleyumc@gmail.com
www.firstwesleyumc.org

*Handicap accessible





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.

Pastor Jinha Choi

“Sunday Worship Time: 11:00am”

The February 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!