

The Messenger

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

June 2024



Confirmation of Faith

We currently have a confirmation class for our youth with their Confirmation to be held on the last Sunday of this month. What is confirmation in the church? Why does their faith have to be confirmed? According to the FAQ page of the official UMC Website, “United Methodists use the term “confirmation” to mark the first time a baptized Christian publicly “confirms” their intention to live the vows of the baptismal and membership covenant and so becomes a professing member of the local congregation and The United Methodist Church.” In baptism as a Christian initiation and a symbol of the washing away of our sin, people confidently confess or confirm their faith in God. It is a very important part of the baptism ceremony. For this meaningful event, they have a baptism preparation class to learn about the meaning of baptism and the Christian life. However, babies and children are baptized without confirming their faith. This is because we believe in God’s prevenient grace that is available to all and is not limited by our lack of understanding or by our inability to accept it. As a result, our youth have had no chance to publicly confess their faith as yet. So, our confirmation class provides them the opportunity to know who we are, what is faith, and how to live as a Christian in the world. The confirmation ceremony will be a time to confirm their faith before the congregation and to welcome them as confessing members of our church. How meaningful and important it is! For this meaningful moment, 4 students are preparing now. The confirmation ceremony will be held during our Sunday worship service on June 30, 2024. Please pray for them to be true disciples of Jesus Christ who can transform the world into the Kingdom of God. Please encourage them to trust in God, to follow Jesus, and to communicate with the Holy Spirit. Finally, please welcome them as our new and precious family. Amen.

First & Wesley United Methodist Church
Pastor Jinha Choi



Lectionary Readings for June 2024



June 2, 2024

- [1 Samuel 3:1-10, \(11-20\)](#) and [Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18](#) • [Deuteronomy 5:12-15](#) and
- [Psalm 81:1-10](#) • [2 Corinthians 4:5-12](#) • [Mark 2:23-3:6](#)

June 9, 2024

- [1 Samuel 8:4-11, \(12-15\), 16-20, \(11:14-15\)](#) and [Psalm 138](#) • [Genesis 3:8-15](#) and
- [Psalm 130](#) • [2 Corinthians 4:13-5:1](#) • [Mark 3:20-35](#)

June 16, 2024

- [1 Samuel 15:34 - 16:13](#) and [Psalm 20](#) • [Ezekiel 17:22-24](#) and [Psalm 92:1-4, 12-15](#) •
- [2 Corinthians 5:6-10, \(11-13\), 14-17](#) • [Mark 4:26-34](#)

June 23, 2024

- [1 Samuel 17:\(1a, 4-11, 19-23\), 32-49](#) and [Psalm 9:9-20](#) or [1 Samuel 17:57-18:5, 18:10-16](#) and
- [Psalm 133](#) • [Job 38:1-11](#) and [Psalm 107:1-3, 23-32](#) • [2 Corinthians 6:1-13](#) • [Mark 4:35-41](#)

June 30, 2024

- [2 Samuel 1:1, 17-27](#) and [Psalm 130](#) • [Wisdom of Solomon 1:13-15, 2:23-24](#) or
- [Lamentations 3:22-33](#) and [Psalm 30](#) • [2 Corinthians 8:7-15](#) • [Mark 5:21-43](#)

Confirmation, Children's Sunday and celebration of graduates

Sunday, June 30th will be our Confirmation Sunday, celebration of our youth and a recognition of our graduates. If you have not already done so, please get any graduate information to our church secretary, Helen Smith, by June 23rd.





First & Wesley United Methodist Church

June

2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2 11:00a Family Worship Service, Communion, Birthday/Anniversary celebration and Sunday School (begins after Children's Sermon)	3 7p Adult Monday school	4 7p Healing Prayer Service in sanctuary	5 7p Adult Group Study	6 10a–12p “K” Café 7p Choir	7 NYAC Conference	8 NYAC Conference
9 11:00a Family Worship Service NYAC Conference	10 7p Adult Monday school 7p Cooperative Parish Council	11 7p Finance	12 7p Adult Group Study	13 10a–12p “K” Café 7p Choir	14	15 5p Agape Meal (Free) All Welcome
16 Fathers’ Day 11:00a Family Worship Service	17 7p Adult Monday school	18	19 7p Adult Group Study	20 10a–12p “K” Café 1p Prayer Shawl at Edith Mulligan’s home* Articles Due for the July/August Messenger Safe Sanctuary training at 7 p on Zoom	21 11a After School Task Force – in person	22 9:30a - 10 Craft Corner 10a Worship Committee
23 11:00a Family Worship Service Safe Sanctuary Training after in sanctuary at 12:15.	24 7p Adult Monday school	25 7p Trustees	26 7p Adult Group Study	27 7p Staff Parish 7p Choir	28	29 10a Painting Party for VBS
30 11:00a Family Worship Service Youth & Children’s celebration						

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

REMINDERS

Worship Service time changes to 10:00 am beginning July 7th. Pastor Choi is now our full time minister serving First & Wesley UMC only.

VBS Theme is Camp Firelight and begins July 7th through the 11th. Sign up on line



Shoreline/Havens Cooperative Parish Healing Prayer Services

The Rev Cindy Dodd, retired UM Elder, will be offering intercessory prayer services at 3 churches within our Cooperative Parish.

1st Tuesday of each month, 7pm, at 1st and Wesley UMC, 89 Center Street, West Haven
2nd Wednesday of each month, 1pm Branford UMC, 811 E Main Street, Branford
4th Wednesday of each month, 1pm Hamden Plains UMC, 15 Church Street, Hamden

All are Welcome

Upcoming Dates:

1st & Wesley: Tuesday May 7, Tuesday June 4th at 7pm
Branford Wed May 8th & Wednesday June 12; 1 pm
Hamden Plains Wednesday May 22 and Wednesday June 26; 1pm

If you have any questions please call or text Cindy Dodd (203) 889-6934



It's time for VBS!



WHEN: July 7th-11th

TIME: 6-8:30pm (5:30pm - Free dinner)

PLACE: First & Wesley United Methodist Church

At Camp Firelight VBS, your child will enjoy an interactive, energizing, Bible-based good time on their summer camp adventure with God. They will become Campers and discover how to put their trust in God in every situation.

We hope you can join us for our Camp Firelight VBS from July 7th to 11th. There will be a simple meal at 5:30pm followed by the program from 6-8:30pm

After a high-energy Opening Assembly time, the Campers make their way to different stations including Bible Story, Music, Crafts, Science & Snack.

Join us as we discover **how to put our trust in God** in every situation!

Please register online at <https://www.firstwesleyumc.org/vbs-registration/>

If you have any questions, please contact Helen Smith at 203-444-2362



VBS Information and Needs

We are starting to get our ducks in a row for our FREE Vacation Bible School "Camp Firelight " which will be go from July 7th-11th from 6:00 to 8:30pm with a FREE dinner at 5:30pm.

If you can help out with anything, it would be greatly appreciated!

We have leaders for all the major areas – Bible, crafts, music, science, snacks, opening & closing and a group leader for 6-8th grade.

Here is a list of who we have in place:

Leaders:

Bible - Cynthia Dodd
Music - Christine Chan
Crafts - Jen Werle & Gail Bartozzi
Science - Chris Latham
Puppeteer - Cynthia Geissler
Opening/Closing leader - Christine Chan?
Snack - Mary Rolfe, Andrea Latham
Dinners - Dave Smith, Peggy Jerrell
Publicity - Jian Chan, Helen Smith
Decorations - Jen Werle

Group leaders (this involves walking the children from station to station and helping there if needed)

K-2 -
3-5 -
6-8 - Marcie Medina
Photographer – Hanna Werle
Video/Sound operator -

We still need 5 volunteers to walk groups from station to station: **one** more for our 6-8th grade group, **two** for our 3-5th grade group and **two** for our K-2nd grade group. We also need a **second person at our music, science, and Bible station** to keep in line with our Safe Sanctuary Policy. Please **contact Helen Smith** if you can help out. 203-444-2362

All volunteers must have the Safe Sanctuary Training to work with the children. We are offering Safe Sanctuary training on the following dates (this is free):

Thursday, June 20th at 7pm on Zoom

Sunday, June 23rd at 12:15 in person (lunch provided)

VBS Donations needed!

In addition we are asking for donations of the following items for VBS. Also, monetary donations are always welcome. Please **contact Helen Smith** if you can donate something, 203-444-2362.

- 1 Skateboard
- 1 box Dry mop sheets
- Wool cloth
- Flat, medium or large piece of expanded polystyrene foam
- 2 2 or 3 quart glass bowls – totally clear
- Baseball

Glow in the dark stars

3 Floor cushions

Medium point Black sharpies

2" Masking tape – 3 rolls

Fabric markers (to write on T-shirts)

Small tent for inside the church

FOOD/SNACKS

Cookie packs (2 cookies to a pack for dinner dessert

Assorted chips (pack of about 50

Individual hostess cupcakes or something similar

4 Brownie mixes

2 cake mixes

4 frostings

6 suddenly salads – Caesar

30 Fruit cups

2 Large powder punch – lemonade and fruit punch

Marshmallows

Graham crackers

Chocolate Hershey bars

VBS Decorating Day

VBS decorating day has been set for June 29th from 10am to 2pm. Please come share your talents and help decorate for VBS this year. You can come help for a bit or stay for the duration; any help is appreciated. We have a really cute theme this year!

BAKELESS BAKE SALE



with A TWIST!



A bit of news we have today
A MATCHING BAKELESS BAKE SALE is on the way!
In these busy days, who has time to bake
Pies or cookies or even a cake!

You'd be surprised if you considered the cost
Of ingredients, heat and the time that you've lost
Baking for sales is extra work
But nobody really wants to shirk.



So we've thought of a plan that's really grand
And feel quite sure you'll understand.
In an envelope, if you like, please include the price...
Of a pie or a cake or anything nice!

This time we've added a new catch
We have some angels who have agreed to MATCH*
What you have given so generously
That way your gift doubles our ministry.

Without fuss or bother, you've done your part
We hope you'll give with a willing heart.
On this idea we hope you'll pounce
And just think, you won't even gain an ounce!



*Up to \$500 total available match

June Birthdays

- 2 - Jenny Santamauro
Arlyn Memmott
- 8 - Shirley Pyrdol
- 9 - Courtney Skipper
- 14 - Greg Hulse
Phoenix Chan
- 16 - James McGregor
- 17 - David Smith
- 18 - Lauren Heafy
- 20 - Edward Gertsch
- 21 - Joshua Braacker
Julianna Rapuano
- 23 - Kelli Jackson
- 24 - Anthony Sablone
- 25 - Richard Reid
- 27 - Christine Chan
- 28 - Helen Amos
- 29 - Mary Kiesinger
Ama Amos

Native American Coin 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!

June Anniversaries

- 1 - Susan and Mark Cascio
- 4 - Jim and Sharon Ewen
- 17 - Cynthia Dodd and Joseph Maltese
- 27 - Jen & Kevin Werle

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.

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

With the summer coming soon it has been decided not to meet during June, July, or August. Many of us have vacations and events planned. We will continue to work on our shawls at home.

Meetings will resume on Sept 26, 2024 - 1PM in person at the home of Edith Mulligan – 65 Messina Drive Apt A761 East Haven, CT (203) 821-7533

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

*We are a small group and would love to have more people join us.
Wishing everyone a safe, fun, and happy summer.*



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/>



The Craft Corner



The Craft Corner Group meets to make cards once a month on Saturday mornings. We have some Get Well and Thinking of You cards to send to people. 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



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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 May 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!