

The Carillon

Nichols UMC

Volume Number 46, Issue Number 5

May 2023



Holy Spirit on the Move – by Pastor David Piscatelli

NRS Acts 2 (Selected Verses) - When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place.² And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting.³ Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them.⁴ All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability...[Peter spoke]...⁴¹ So those who welcomed his message were baptized, and that day about three thousand persons were added.⁴² They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.⁴³ Awe came upon everyone, because many wonders and signs were being done by the apostles...⁴⁶ Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts,⁴⁷ praising God and having the goodwill of all the people. And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.

The Spirit of God is always on the move; it is never stagnant. After Jesus is resurrected on Easter, He ascends into Heaven and the disciples are told to wait for the empowerment of the Holy Spirit. With vivid language, we see in the text above how the violent wind filled the upper room and pushed the disciples out into the streets among the people. The Holy Spirit moved them from their comfort zones and began something new as Peter gave the very first sermon. The results were amazing: three thousand persons added to God's kingdom, people welcomed the message, people were baptized, they spent much time together in worship, broke bread together, and all praised God. Just like Jesus was always on the move from place to place to engage the people, the Holy Spirit was on the move to create more disciples of Jesus Christ.

The Day of Pentecost is considered the birth of the Christian Church. The Holy Spirit never stops moving through communities of faith to bring together believers who will worship God, grow in faith and serve the Lord Jesus Christ. While we often call a church building a "House of God", the Spirit is actively pushing disciples to engage the world with acts of compassion, unity, hope, and transformation. Since that first Day of Pentecost, there have been millions of baptisms, professions of faith, works of service, and acts of worship by groups of people empowered by the Holy Spirit. It is not about what we do individually but what God is constantly doing in the world collectively through us. While many people try to proclaim that God is no longer active in our world today, the Holy Spirit continues to be on the move in real and visible ways.

In this season of Pentecost, we will receive another group of Confirmands into membership on May 21st. We will celebrate our Sunday School children in worship on Celebration Sunday on June 11th. We will have two baptisms and our ASP Team of youth and adults will head to Appalachia on June 24th to serve Christ and the people in need there. At the end of June, a number of United Methodist pastors will leave their current congregations and move to new communities. Pastor Albert Hahn will be moving to Nichols as I am moving the First UMC in Stamford. Ministry that is led by the Holy Spirit is never stationary. In my lifetime, I have been a part of seven Methodist congregations (eight if you count my baptism). In some of them, I have been very active and in others, not as much. God has used transitions, job changes, and career changes to move me from one community to another. I can honestly say that each move was an opportunity for God to do something new in my life. When God brings me to new spaces to join with other believers, it helps the Holy Spirit use that unifying power to do greater and greater things.

Like the disciples – we never know where God will send us! Some of us have spent our whole lifetime at Nichols UMC. Others came to this church because of a corporate move, and some just walked in off the street or heard about good things God was doing here. The disciples, filled with the Spirit of God, engaged those around them with their conversations and with their actions. They built relationships not buildings. May the Spirit of God continue to thrive in our church that together God may continue to bring healing, unity, hope and transformation to the world around us.

~Grace & peace, *Pastor David*



Sundays 9-9:45am Adult Bible Study - In Person

This study is taught by David Preusch and meets in the Numbers classroom. Have you ever stopped and asked yourself just who Jesus is? Why did He appear on earth? And, most importantly, what does that mean for me? The answers to these questions and much more can be found in the Gospel of John and this study will be seeking answers to these questions. This is an inclusive study that includes the reading of short passages followed by questions about the passage for group discussion. Notes on the history and geography of the time and place provide context. There is no homework required but to bring the Bible translation of your choice. If you are new to Bible study and would like a place to start or would like a group setting, the Gospel of John is the place to start!



Sundays 10am The Message Conversation Study - In Person

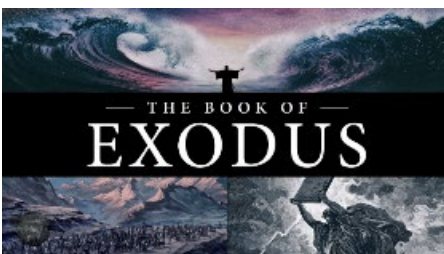
The Message Conversation study is back and meeting in the lounge after the 9am service. If young families are interested in joining us, please feel free to worship at 9am, stay for the children’s sermon at 10am worship and join us in the lounge when the children go to church school. We are fine with the later arrival! No study guide or homework. Just a discussion of Pastor David’s message. All are welcome! Any questions, please email Caryn Hammond at Caryn3u2d@gmail.com.



Peace & Prayer: Mid-Week Time of Devotion - Zoom Wednesdays 11:30-11:45am

Judy Lang hosts a brief time of devotion and prayer via Zoom. This will be an opportunity to spend about 15 minutes centering ourselves in reflective thought and prayer. The link for this mid-week centering time can be accessed by clicking here: [Peace & Prayer Midweek Time of Devotion](#) OR

Dial in: (646)-876-9923, Meeting ID: 366 149 7977, Password: 35#.



Word & Coffee Thursdays, 9-10am - Zoom

Pastor David leads this study on Exodus. Each week we will open in prayer, read the passage, and discuss what we have learned/questioned during our reading and reflection. All are welcome, and you may drop in (via Zoom) any week. If you would like to attend, please email Pastor David pastordavidnumc@snet.net. NOTE: a recorded video version will also be available upon request for those who cannot attend the live session.



Vacation Bible School – COMING THIS SUMMER!

Dates & Times to Be Determined

Vacation Bible School is back at Nichols UMC! Our theme this summer is **Stellar: Shine Jesus' Light!** The children will learn that when life feels dark, when people don't get along, when good things happen, when we are sad, and when we need help, Jesus' light still shines in us. The children will sing songs, play fun games, make arts and crafts and listen to Bible stories about how they too can help shine

Jesus' light in the world. Vacation Bible School is open to **children ages 4 years of age through those graduating 5th grade**. If you are looking for a new activity at Nichols United Methodist Church that will help you and your family grow closer to God and Jesus, this is it. **Vacation Bible School is being offered free of charge this summer, thanks to a generous sponsor.** If you are interested in registering your child for VBS or volunteering, please email our Education Director, Mabel Buttress (mbuttressnumc@gmail.com) or see her after the 10am worship service. More details will be provided soon as we review the results of our VBS survey! We look forward to seeing you there!



May is an exciting month as we'll explore what happens after Easter –

Jesus tells us we can only come to God through Him (John 14:6), we'll learn how to trust God is real even though we can't see Him and that the Holy Spirit is our comforter (John 14:16), we'll hear the extra-ordinary truth of Christ's Ascension (Acts 1:9), and explore the meaning of God sending the Holy Spirit on Pentecost (Acts 2:4).

We've had several new faces join Sunday School and have a consistent base of returning students, but I would love to see all of our kids coming more often! I will be reaching out to families individually to learn how I can best entice your children to want to come on a regular basis. My goal is to help each and every child build a strong foundation for their faith in Jesus. Feel free to contact me with comments, concerns or suggestions!

~Blessings, Miss Mabel

Mabel Buttress, Children's Education Director ~ 203-400-0894 ~ mbuttressnumc@gmail.com



This season is a time of warmer weather and nature coming back to life. Flowers bloom, trees blossom, and new life is all around us. As a Christian, we are given new life and new mercies every morning. Spring provides a wonderful reminder to us that we should be living a full life and leaving the old dead parts of life behind. Hallelujah. Thank you, Jesus. We had good discussions in April on having and keeping an attitude of gratitude in these crazy times when people are more offended than usual. We talked about the importance of serving others and having a servant's heart. Meg Anderson led a paint party and on the last Sunday of

April, the ASP crew provided us dinner, played some games, and talked about the Appalachia Service Project. We were truly blessed to spend so much time together. Happy Mother's Day to all the amazing women in our congregation. The May calendar is below.

May 6th - Downtown Cabaret *The Wizard of Oz*

May 14th - Mother's Day No youth group

May 21st - Regular Youth Group 5-7pm

May 28th - Regular Youth Group 5-7pm



Chrissy Ferrante, Youth Director ~ 203.558.7848 ~ chrissy842001@comcast.net



Baptisms

- Joel Valentine LaPietra, son of Gabe and Kate LaPietra, was baptized on March 26th.
- Jordan Christopher Daddio, son of Stephen and Rebecca Daddio, was baptized on April 16th.



Celebrating Pentecost - Sunday, May 21st

In celebration of the day please wear **RED**, signifying when the Holy Spirit came to the disciples and the people of Jerusalem.



Baccalaureate Service

SAVE THE DATE: Celebration & Baccalaureate Sunday

June 10th - 10am Worship Service

If you are graduating from high school, college, tech school, or graduate school and would like to be recognized on Baccalaureate Sunday, please contact the church office by June 5th via e-mail (nicholsmethodist@snet.net). Please include: graduate's name, school and degree/accomplishments.



This month's outreach is Project Learn, an after-school program at Summerfield United Methodist for elementary children to help them with their homework and provide a safe haven. The program runs Monday-Friday (3-5pm). Students from the local colleges provide tutoring and provide age-appropriate health promoting activities, such as cooking classes to reinforce proper diet and nutrition, and bullying prevention activities designed to raise awareness and to increase self-assurance and self-esteem. Youth With a Purpose is for older youth up to early 20's. The mission of this program is to break the cycles of poverty, lack of education, unemployment, teen parenthood/single parenthood, incarceration of young men and women, and crime in Bridgeport. Professionals from the community have helped to mentor over 100 at-risk kids in the community, helped place over 40 students in colleges and universities, and helped many of the other young people to obtain jobs. Please give generously to support these programs. To donate please make checks payable to NUMC with Project Learn in the memo. Thank you for your support.



Golden Hill UMC will be hosting their 3rd Annual Bike Giveaway on June 2nd and bikes of all sizes are needed. The bikes are only given to individuals and families that have been invited to attend the giveaway. They have been referred to Golden Hill by social workers and schools as well as families that have received assistance from Golden Hill. Last year 56 individuals received bikes. If you have a bike that you would like to donate please call Phyllis Grafton at 203-386-8973 with any questions and to arrange pickup.



May 2 Brian Lambe
May 2 Debra A. Owen
May 3 Kelly Shay
May 4 Thomas Clark
May 4 Lynne Migliore
May 4 Christopher Raccuia
May 4 Katy Strohecker
May 5 Pam Campoli
May 5 Ryan T. Carew
May 5 Joy Tarbox
May 6 Robert Hansen
May 7 Carole Chameides
May 7 Mellik Gorton
May 7 Gavin Racette
May 8 Andrew Lefer
May 8 Katelyn McKenzie
May 8 Trisha McMahon
May 9 William Gerard
May 9 Karen Gorton
May 10 Sarah DiPinto
May 10 Jo Harper
May 10 Lauren Walsh

May 11 Jaxson Clark
May 11 Lillian Kyrtschenko
May 11 Heather Miller
May 13 Polly Owen
May 14 Rex Anku
May 15 Lee Overhiser
May 15 Gail Terrell
May 16 Chris Carew
May 16 Ellen E. Janik
May 16 Judy Lang
May 16 Greg Rakoczy
May 17 Michael W. Bart
May 17 William Rojas
May 18 Susan L. Baccaro
May 18 Dorothy M. Bietsch
May 18 Nancy M. Busch
May 18 Jeff Gorton
May 18 Chris Mustakas
May 19 Cayla Cantafio
May 20 Kelly O'Leary
May 20 Larry Rivera
May 20 David Schadlich

May 21 Wayne Saunders Jr.
May 22 Kyle Davidson
May 22 Brittany Monks
May 22 Lauren O'Leary
May 22 Bailey Wright
May 23 Susan DeVecchio
May 24 Daphne Main
May 25 Makenna Brady
May 25 James, Waters Jr.
May 26 Luke Shay
May 27 Cheryl Miko
May 27 Janice E. Moore
May 27 Elizabeth Raccuia
May 28 Greg DeSanty
May 28 Johnna Dineley
May 28 Alexa McGowan
May 28 Amelia Strohecker
May 29 Jim McMahon
May 29 Sawyer Ponzeka
May 30 Sean Hansen
May 31 Juliet Stagnetta
May 31 Vicki Wilmot



May 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Every Sunday 8 AM Worship w/ communion 9 AM Contemp Service w/Nursery 9 AM Bible Study 10 AM Worship w/ nursery care, church school & Message Study 11 AM Coffee Hr						
30	1	2	3	4	5	6
	12 pm AA 6 pm Cub Scouts 7 pm SPRC Meeting - Zoom	5:30 pm AA 6:30 pm Bells 6-10 pm Footsteps 7:45 pm Praise Band Rehearsal	9:30 am UWIF Board Meeting 11:30 am Peace & Prayer - Zoom 6:00 pm AA 7:00 pm Boy Scouts 8:00 pm AA	10:00 am AA 6:30 pm Choir Rehearsal 6:30-9 pm Footsteps	12 pm AA	
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
6:45 pm ASP Mtg. 7 pm AA	12 pm AA 6 pm Cub Scouts	8 AM UWIF kitchen prep 9:30 AM Memoir Writing 5:30 pm AA 6:30 pm Bells 6-10 pm Footsteps 7:45 pm Praise Band Rehearsal	11:30 am UWIF Luncheon 11:30 am Peace & Prayer - Zoom 6:00 pm AA 7:00 pm Boy Scouts 8:00 pm AA	10:00 am AA 6:30 pm Choir Rehearsal	12 pm AA	6-9 pm Footsteps Potluck Dinner
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
Happy Mother's Day 7 pm AA	12 pm AA 6 pm Cub Scouts 7 pm Finance Meeting - Zoom 7 pm Worship Comm. Mtg - Zoom	5:30 pm AA 6:30 pm Bells 6-10 pm Footsteps 7:45 pm Praise Band Rehearsal	11:30 am Peace & Prayer - Zoom 6:00 pm AA 7:00 pm Trustees Mtg - Zoom 7:00 pm ASP Bd Mtg 7:00 pm Boy Scouts 8:00 pm AA	9:00 am Word & Coffee - Zoom 10:00 am AA 6:30 pm Choir Rehearsal	12 pm AA	7 am Merton House Sandwiches 10 am Confirmation Rehearsal
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
Confirmation Sunday 7 pm AA	12 PM AA 6 PM Cub Scouts 7 PM Church Council Meeting - Zoom	9:30 am Memoir Writing 5:30 pm AA 6:30 pm Bells 6-10 pm Footsteps 7:45 pm Praise Band Rehearsal	11:30 am Peace & Prayer - Zoom 6:00 pm AA 7:00 pm Boy Scouts 8:00 pm AA	9:00 am Word & Coffee - Zoom 10:00 am AA 6:30 pm Choir Rehearsal	12 pm AA	
28	29	30	31	1	2	3
1 service 10 am Worship 7 pm AA	Memorial Day Office Closed	5:30 pm AA 6:30 pm Bells 6-10 pm Footsteps 7:45 pm Praise Band Rehearsal	11:30 am Peace & Prayer - Zoom 6:00 pm AA 7:00 pm Boy Scouts 8:00 pm AA			
4	5	6	7	8	April 2023 Su Mo Tu We Th Fr Sa 26 27 28 29 30 31 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 1 2 3 4 5 6	
MDO 2 - Mon-Thur 9:30-1:45 - ends 5/12/make ups 5/16-19 MDO 3 Tues, Thr, Fri 9:15-1:45 Kids in Spirit Tues & Fri starts 5/16					June 2023 Su Mo Tu We Th Fr Sa 28 29 30 31 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8	

Nichols United Methodist Church

The Carillon

35 Shelton Road

Trumbull, CT 06611

203-375-5817

nicholsmethodist@snet.net

www.nicholsumc.org

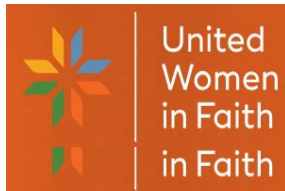
Holly Piscatelli, Editor

Submit articles through

e-mail: numccarillon@yahoo.com

DEADLINE FOR THE June 2023 issue is May 12th

The Carillon is published monthly except during July by the Nichols United Methodist Church, 35 Shelton Road, Trumbull, CT 06611. Send address changes to; The Carillon, 35 Shelton Road, Trumbull, CT 06611 Submissions should be emailed to NUMCCarillon@yahoo.com will be confirmed by the Editor.



UWF May Luncheon ~ Motherhood Memories Wednesday, May 10th at 11:30am

NUWF cordially invite all women and men to our May 10th luncheon in Fellowship Hall, featuring our very own Louise MacCormack speaking on “Motherhood Memories”. Louise’s program will take us down memory lane, thinking about our mothers and/or mother figures while providing guidance on capturing our memories in writing. All participants will be given writing notebooks. Louise is a gifted writer herself and we’re sure she will make creative writers out of all of us. Our times are: 11:30am Fellowship, 12noon Meeting, 12:15pm Luncheon followed by our Mother’s Day program. If you are not already on our calling list, you may make reservations by calling Brenda Braun at 203-375-1257. The cost is just \$7. Place settings will be provided. We hope to see you all at the luncheon. Happy Mother’s Day!

Executive Board Meeting: Wednesday, May 5th at 9:30am in the Lounge

UWF Revised Fair Date: Saturday, October 14th ~ donations are now being accepted