

The Quester



*Fairfield Grace United
Methodist Church*

**February
2015**

A Message From Our Pastor...

Dear FGUMC family and friends,

Happy New Year to you and your family!

"Kun Sam, where have you been? It is February, not January." I know we already enter the second month of the year 2015. But do you know the New Year begins on Feb. 18 according to the lunar calendar? (Feb. 18 is the first day of the Lenten season, as well.) I don't want to miss an opportunity to celebrate a new beginning with all those people who welcome the new year this month.

Do you know our mission statement? Yes, we do have our own mission statement. It is Fairfield Grace United Methodist Church is a faith community to

"Bring people to Christ,"
"Provide opportunities for spiritual growth,"
"Respond with love to people's needs," &
"Offer Christian fellowship and friendship"

Do you know how many ministry teams and team leaders have been formed in order to fulfill our mission? **10 teams & 12 team leaders.**

Do you know 12 servant-leaders who serve and lead in our midst? See below to find out who they are and their email addresses. Their email addresses and telephone numbers can be found in the church directory, as well.

"Bring People to Christ"

Worship Team:

Laura Sherwood lirauscher@yahoo.com

Music Team:

Zet Medina ford-medinam@coned.com

Jean Oneto jeanoneto@optonline.net

Welcoming Team:

Georgina Holdsworth gholdsworth@optimum.net

Communication Team:

Joanne Hus joannehus@gmail.com

“Provide Opportunities for Spiritual Growth”

Stewardship Team: Dennis Robb dennisgrobb@gmail.com
Education Team: Superintendent: Patty Jurgielewicz prj2@optonline.net
Adult Education Coord: Sheila Muscott sheilamuscott@att.net

Scholarship Team: Judy Vindheim joliveoil2@aim.com

Youth Advisory Team: Kurt Rempe rempster@optonline.net

“Respond with love to people’s needs”

Outreach Team: Dot Daruka ddaruka@sbcglobal.net

“Offer Christian Fellowship and Friendship”

Fellowship Team: Craig Leppla craig.leppla@gmail.com

Nancy Leppla nleppla@gmail.com

Do you know you can join any team to share your God-given talents and time? Do you know you can have a good time to love and serve others as a team member? Do not hesitate to contact team leaders by email or phone call, and you will find out more about what they have been doing and joy of building up a healthy body of Christ at FGUMC.

Blessings,
Kun Sam, your partner in ministry



2016 Birthday Quilt

Any one interested in designing and making a quilt for our 60th Church Birthday for June 2016 please contact Nancy Hauser at 203-538-5901. This would be placed on display for all to see and enjoy for years to come. Any other ideas would be appreciated as we move forward to build our church community and include our neighbors and friends.

Nancy Hauser



Taize: A Time to Pray

There is power and peace in prayer

Fairfield Grace invites you
to come to its weekly prayer services...

When: Every Wednesday

Where: The Sanctuary

Services: 9:30-10:00 A.M. or 7:00-7:30
P.M

This is a time to meditate, relax, reflect, and
pray in a quiet and peaceful setting, where
you can be with God in moments of silence.

All are welcome. Come. Invite a friend



Fairfield Grace Families In Our Prayers

Week of:

Feb 01: Jean Bartholomew, Bedson Family
& Beriquete Family

Feb 08: Bermudez Family, Bissell Family
and Sylvia & Jim Blackburn

Feb 15: Joyce & Roy Blackfield, Block Family
and Bowcock Family

Feb 22: Betty Brandt, Wayne Brown
& Bob Butler

Lectionary Readings February 2015

February 1, 2015
4th Sunday After the Epiphany
Deuteronomy 18:15-20
1 Corinthians 8:1-13
Mark 1:21-28

February 8, 2015
5th Sunday After the Epiphany
Isaiah 40:21-31
Corinthians 9:16-23
Mark 1:29-39

February 15, 2015
Last Sunday After the Epiphany
2 Kings 2:1-12
2 Corinthians 4:3-6
Mark 9:2-9

February 22, 2015
1st Sunday in Lent
Genesis 9:8-17
1 Peter 3:18-22
Mark 1:9-15

Fairfield Grace YOUTH GROUP

January/February 2015

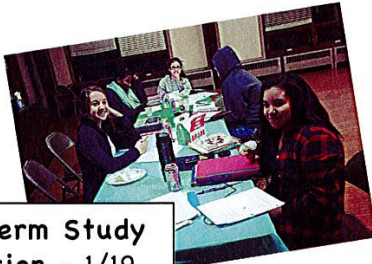


A word from our youth group:

- **Thank you** to the Fairfield Grace community (including parents!) for your continued support and prayers for our youth group!
- We are consistently in need of **extra adults** to attend our meetings and events (to be in accordance with Safe Sanctuaries). Without you, we cannot run our youth group. Please consider volunteering by contacting Lauren. It means so much to us!
- If you know someone who is in **8th - 12th grade** and may be interested in learning about our youth group events, please contact Lauren.

CONTACT INFO: Lauren Regan - FairfieldGraceUMCYouth@gmail.com or 203-339-5152

Check out what we've been up to:



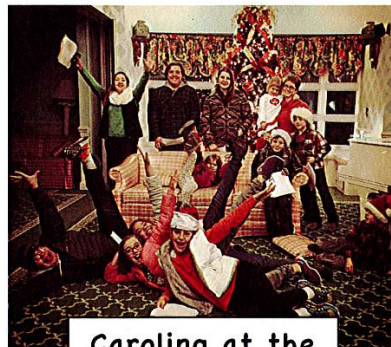
Midterm Study
Session - 1/19



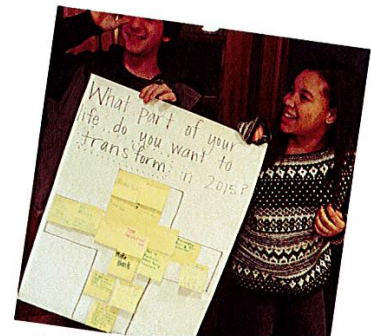
Community
Clean Up - 12/7



Breakfast with
Santa- 12/6



Caroling at the
Carolton- 12/21



Meeting - New
Year's Plans- 1/4



Gingerbread House
Decorating - 12/14

Fairfield Grace
YOUTH GROUP

January/February 2015



Here's what's coming up next - join us!

*Please note some dates have changed

YOUTH GROUP MEETING - Mission Trip - Sunday, January 25th from 6:00 - 7:30 PM

This meeting will start off with an informational briefing for you and for your parents about our Mission Trip this summer. Also, there will be FREEEEEEEE PIZZZZZAAAAA! Bring your friends and your family. Your mission trip deposit (\$100) can be paid at this meeting, as well.

* Please also join us on the church *Hindu Temple* visit beforehand!

"SOUP"ER BOWL SUNDAY - Sunday, February 1st from 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Our youth group will be collecting canned goods, non-perishable items and donations at the 10:00 AM service at Fairfield Grace so that we can sort them and deliver them to Operation Hope. This is part of a national youth-led effort to serve the hungry. Check it out at: www.souperbowl.org.

ICE SKATING - Sunday, February 8th from 11:30 AM - 1:30 PM

Meet at Fairfield Grace to drive to the beautiful, winter wonderland, outdoor ice skating rink at Longshore in Westport. For just \$15, you will get skate rentals, ice skating for an hour, and an incredibly fun experience with your friends.

* We will return in time to attend the church *Buddhist Temple* trip afterwards!

LAZER TAG - Sunday, February 15th from 3:00 - 5:00 PM

Meet at Fairfield Grace to drive to the jungle safari war zone at the Sportsplex in Shelton. Imagine: it's nightfall with a layer of fog surrounding you. Your enemy is on the other side of the ridge. May the odds be ever in your favor. Price TBD.

WINTER RETREAT AND SKI TRIP - Friday - Sunday, February 20 - 22nd

This is the best event of the year for our youth group! Some of the exciting events will include a Mario Kart tournament, skiing, snowboarding, and tubing! We have **many** great activities planned.

Payment Information:

*Full payment is due by **Sunday, February 1st**

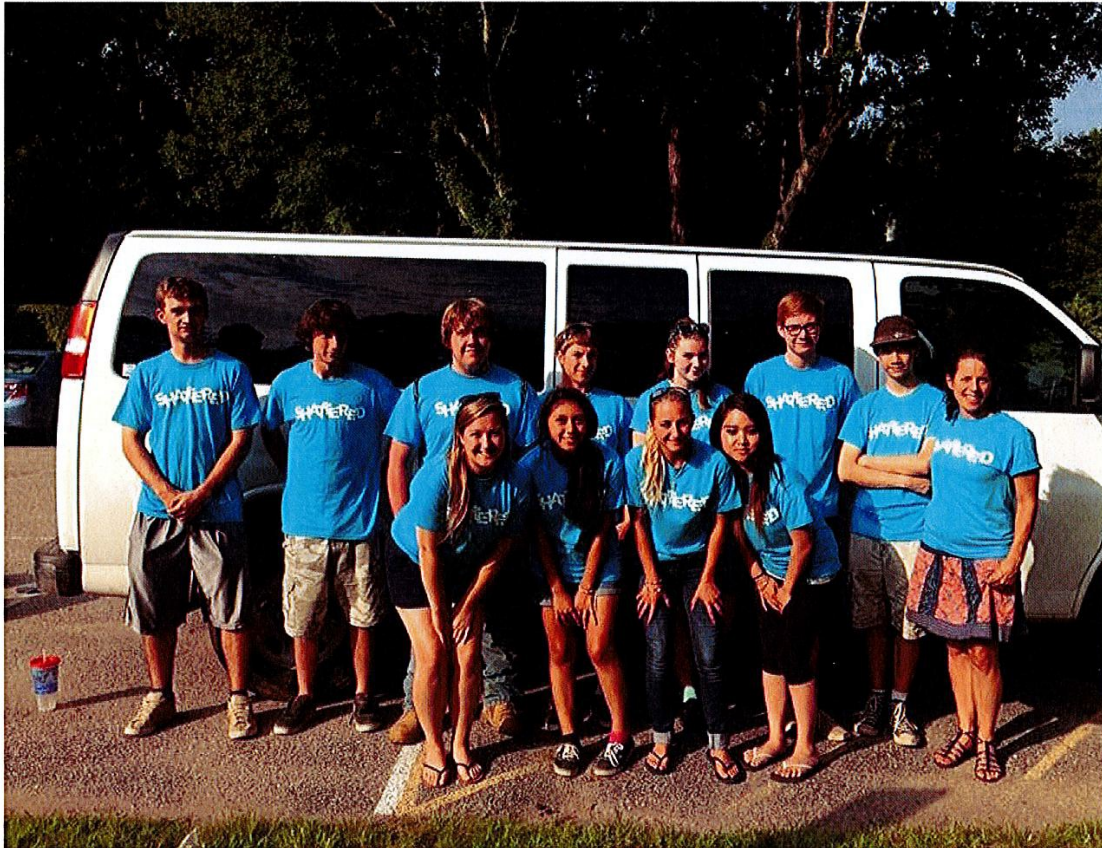
Please contact Lauren if you are unsure of your balance.

*There is a scholarship-type fund for our youth group members to supplement the cost, so please contact Lauren if you are interested in that.

YOUTH GROUP MEETING - Theme TBD - Sunday, March 1st from 6:00 - 7:30 PM

Join us for our regular youth group meeting in the Youth Room. Come have fun with friends!

2015 YOUTH SUMMER MISSION TRIP



BRAXTON COUNTRY, WEST VIRGINIA JULY 19th – JULY 25th

WHO CAN ATTEND: High School (including rising 9th Graders) & College Students

COST: \$450

DEADLINE & DEPOSIT: Register by March 1st with a \$200 deposit. The remaining balance of \$250 is due on May 1st. Checks made out to FGUMC.

REGISTRATION: Input the UNIQUE LINK in your browser to Register. Be ready with Emergency contact & Insurance information.

Unique Link: <http://trips.nextstepministries.com/10013815/individual-participant-form/>

QUESTIONS: Contact Director of Youth Ministries, Lauren Regan at fairfieldgraceumcyouth@gmail.com, 203-339-5152 OR Kim Peters at kpeters3515@gmail.com, (203) 394-8462

PARTICIPATION IN FUNDRAISING EVENTS WILL BE REQUIRED & CAN OFFSET THE COST OF TRIP. ADULT CHAPERONES NEEDED



Paper Shredding Day—Saturday May 16, 2015

Do you ever want to clean out your files of old bank statements, checks, brokerage statements, income tax forms, etc.? There are a lot of papers that you should put through a shredder so no one will use the information for identity theft. You may even have a small office shredder at home. But there are times when you have so much to shred that it would take you hours with a small shredder. So the job just does not get done.

We have the answer. Just toss all that shredding material into a carton and bring it to church on Saturday morning May 16. For a mere \$10, we will take a 10-ream size carton of paper (price can vary--more for larger cartons and less for small ones) and have it shred for you. This shredding opportunity will take place in our church parking lot, and we will advertise it and make it available to the whole town. So it is something you can ask your friends to do also.

Please note that if we can get more than 50 people to bring boxes of paper, we will make some money to help the church. So talk it up with your friends, doctors, businesses, etc.



The UMW (Naomi and Rebecca Circles) will meet Wednesday, February 18, 2015 at 10:30 am in the Parlor. As of now, a program has not been decided on; however, once it has been decided on, details will be in the Sunday bulletins. All ladies of the church are welcome to join us and it is requested that everyone bring a "brown bag lunch". Dessert and coffee/tea will be provided. For further details call Georgina at 203-335-7129 or Leah at 203-259-6095 or see us at church.

DISTRICT RESOURCE DAY WORKSHOPS 2015

Saturday, January 31st 10 to 12 a.m. @ Newtown UMC




Sunday, February 8th 2 to 4 p.m. @ Wethersfield UMC

	<p>SPR 101 A basic overview of the role of the Staff-Parish Relations Committee in the local church, along with an update on the Bishop's procedures on appointment-making. <i>Led by Connecticut District Superintendent, Rev. Ken Kieffer.</i></p>
	<p>U.M. ARMY, Not Just for YOUTH!! U.M. ARMY (United Methodist Reach-out Mission by Youth) is a mission opportunity right here in the Northeast, and you don't have to be a "youth" to become involved. Join <i>Kim Koch and Tracie Nixon</i> as they share how this youth mission experience in their churches grew into a complete congregational mission endeavor. Explore this program to see how it ignited their churches and learn about opportunities this summer for your church in this amazing mission program.</p>
	<p>Church Finances A discussion on Church Finances including the most frequently asked questions of the Conference Center office. Topics will include taxes, budgeting, auditing, apportionments and clergy benefits, along with others. <i>Led by Geof Fowler, President of the Conference General Committee on Finance and Administration.</i></p>
	<p>Why We Are Here (Youth Ministries Workshop) Ever wonder why youth come to church? Ever wonder if they are listening? Ever wonder what they hear? Now you can ask them! Join a panel of youth along with youth directors <i>Tracie Nixon and Kim Koch</i> and see what is really on the minds of today's youth in our congregations.</p>
	<p>Dissing the "Dis" in Disability: Welcoming the Differently Abled We never know who will walk in our church doors on a Sunday morning. What happens when someone with a disability enters the worship space or the Sunday school classroom? This educational and experiential workshop will give a basic understanding of some of the more likely disabilities we may see and some simple suggestions on ways to be prepared as a church community. <i>Led by Stephanie Parsons, Chair of the NYAC Committee on Accessibility.</i></p>
	<p>Music for Inclusive and Multi-Cultural Worship is an Interactive Workshop for Clergy and Laity which will provide resources for finding and using Multi-Cultural hymns in the United Methodist Hymnal, The Faith We Sing, Worship and Song, among others. In our busy and demanding churches and lives, it seems that no one has time to think about "new" hymnody. Let's work together to make this task easier for clergy and laity so that our Worship can lift up and transform all. <i>Led by Daniel Pettit, Director of Music Ministries at Golden Hill UMC.</i></p>

MORE WORKSHOPS AND INFO ON NEXT PAGE!

DISTRICT RESOURCE DAY WORKSHOPS 2015

Saturday, January 31st 10 to 12 a.m. @ Newtown UMC
Sunday, February 8th 2 to 4 p.m. @ Wethersfield UMC

	<p>Social Media & the Church An introduction to using online resources and tools to further ministry. With over 93% of non-profits using social media sites to connect with the world around them, an online presence is now a critical tool in a church's marketing kit. However, many churches find it overwhelming and difficult to begin. You'll receive a basic understanding of the top sites, how they could be used to minister to your members and potential congregants, how to connect to the community around you, and most importantly, how to get started immediately. <i>Led by Jennifer Bissell, Event and Communications Coordinator, Fairfield Grace UMC.</i></p>
	<p>Prayer Workshop (Newtown 1/31) Prayer can be a challenge. Sometimes the words don't come easily, or even at all. We feel stuck, and begin to worry that maybe we're not "doing it right". Fortunately, there's no wrong way to talk to God, and there are actually many ways to pray! In our time together we'll look at some prayer possibilities and give a few of them a try. Then we'll leave with a starter list of resources we can use for sharing, research or personal practice. <i>Led by Rev. Carol Downs, Southington Grace UMC.</i></p>
<p>A•men (ā•men') adv., interj.</p>	<p>Prayer Workshop (Wethersfield 2/8) Isn't it amazing that God desires so much to converse with us that we'd be invited to call any time! Come explore what just a few of the experts—and a little personal experience—can offer as we take a look at the faith-building, hopeful, growth-enhancing, convicting, strengthening, eternally effective, mysterious practice we call PRAYER. <i>Led by Lisa Bosworth, Certified Lay Minister, Seymour UMC.</i></p>
	<p>Ministry By Strengths (For Pastors) People are the most valuable resource of any organization. Successful teamwork in a marriage, a family, at church or work doesn't just happen; it's the result of positive working relationships. MBS will help you better understand people's differing communication and decision making styles to equip us to live and work more effectively with others. In MBS, we'll focus on each person's underlying temperament, the foundation on which personality is built. <i>Led by Rev. Ric Hanse, West Hartford UMC.</i></p>

February Birthdays



01	Sean Mizoguchi
02	Andrew Jurgielewicz
03	Kimberly Spangler
06	Jim Wood
09	Jim Conroy
09	Kristina Joukhadar
10	David Harrison
11	Yubin Yi
14	Craig Michelson
14	Alexander Tang
15	Jenna Michelson
15	Marion Prescott
18	Cynthia Peck-Humphrey
19	Joseph Dowgiallo
20	Felix Beriguete
24	Steve Lopes
26	Maggie Price
26	Elizabeth Sweeney
28	Robert Bedson
28	Hae Kim
28	Daniel Vindheim



Thank You

Thank you to our Fairfield Grace Church family for digging into your pockets to contribute to year end gifts for church staff. We cannot measure the worth of each staff member in dollars and cents and this form of recognition for their valuable service, at the gift giving time of year, is important. God Bless!

Dottie Connelly, past SPRC chair.



**Deadline for
Submissions
for March Quester:**

Friday, February 20th

Ushers

Feb Team #3 ~ Ed Schindler

- ~ Dot Peck
- ~ Ed Stock
- ~ Art Thomas
- ~ Charlie Morris
- ~ Bob Watson



Worship Service

Usher's Needed!

Fellowship Hour

February: Hope Circle

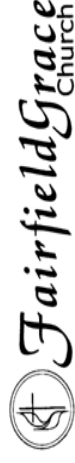
Greeters

United Methodist Women

Looking for ushers for Sunday morning service. Contact Joe Sugrue for more details, (203) 366-2332 or jsugrue@optonline.net



February 2015



Fairfield Grace, Birthdays, Committees, Education/Enrichment, Fellowship, Mission, Music, Rentals, Youth Group

Feb 2015 (Eastern Time)

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Communion Sunday Brainy Alley, Conf Rm 9am - Adult Study, Hood @ 10am - Worship Service, 11:30am - Welcoming 1pm - Scouts, FH 6pm - Yth Group, Yth Rm.	2 7:30pm - Alanon, Yth Rm @	3 10:30am - Zumba Class, 6pm - Confirmation Class, 7pm - Youth Advisory, 7:30pm - Handbells @ Choir	4 9:30am - Taize Prayer 10:10am - Lect. Bible 7pm - Boy Scouts, FH @ 7pm - Taize Prayer Service 7pm - Trustees, 2nd Gr 7:30pm - Finance, Hood	5 10:10am - Retired Men's 7:30pm - Chancel Choir @	6 6:30pm - Scouts Pack 94,	7
8 CONNECTIONAL SUNDAY SCOUTING/YOUTH SUNDAY Visiting Buddhist Temple 9am - Adult Study, Hood @ 10am - Worship Service, 12pm - Korean Worship, 1pm - Faith Circle, FH 6pm - Yth Group, Yth Rm.	9 7pm - Serena's, Hood 7:30pm - Alanon, Yth Rm @	10 10:30am - Zumba Class, 12pm - Cluster Clergy, 6pm - Confirmation Class, 7:30pm - Handbells @ Choir	11 9:30am - Taize Prayer 10:10am - Lect. Bible 7pm - Boy Scouts, FH @ 7pm - Taize Prayer Service 7:45pm - Church Council-	12 10:10am - Coffee House 7:30pm - Chancel Choir @	13 6pm - Spag Dinner Set-Up, 6:30pm - Scouts Pack 94,	14 4pm - Marriage Vow 4:45pm - Spag Dinner, FH 5:30pm - Brainy Alley, Conf
15 Youth Group Ski Trip 9am - Adult Study, Hood @ 10am - Worship Service, 12pm - Korean Worship, 1pm - Faith Circle, FH 6pm - Yth Group, Yth Rm.	16 7:30pm - Alanon, Yth Rm @	17 10:30am - Zumba Class, 6pm - Confirmation Class, 7:30pm - Handbells @ Choir	18 ASH WEDNESDAY 9:30am - Taize Prayer 10:10am - Lect. Bible 7pm - Boy Scouts, FH @ 7pm - Taize Prayer Service 7:30pm - Ashes Service, 8pm - Faith Circle, Hood	19 9:30am - Staff Mtg. 10:10am - Coffee House 7:30pm - Chancel Choir @	20 Felix Beriguete's birthday Youth Group Ski Trip 6:30pm - Scouts Pack 94,	21 Youth Group Ski Trip
22 1st SUNDAY OF LENT HEALING TIME @ Sanctuary 9am - Adult Study, Hood @ 10am - Worship Service, 12pm - Korean Worship, 1pm - Faith Circle, FH 6pm - Yth Group, Yth Rm.	23 7:30pm - Alanon, Yth Rm @ 7:30pm - Scouts	24 10:30am - Zumba Class, 6pm - Confirmation Class, 7:30pm - Handbells @ Choir	25 9:30am - Taize Prayer 10:10am - Lenten Bible 4:45pm - Serving at Golden 7pm - Boy Scouts, FH @ 7pm - Taize Prayer Service	26 10:10am - Coffee House 5pm - Scouts, District 7:30pm - Chancel Choir @	27 6:30pm - Scouts Pack 94,	28 UNW Meeting 5:30pm - Brainy Alley, Conf