



PARISH POST

Wapping Community Church, United Church of Christ
No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey,
you are welcome here!

May, 2025



Maundy Thursday Service & Labyrinth



**Rev. Mark Leads Easter
Sunday Children's Messages**



Sacred Dancers and Chancel Choir on Easter

Collaborative Music Sunday Services

MAY 4, 10AM SERVICE
The Universalist Church of
West Hartford, CT

MAY 11, 10AM
MOTHER'S DAY SERVICE
Wapping Community Church,
South Windsor, CT

The Road Not Taken

choral works by Randall Thompson

COMBINED CHOIRS &
CHAMBER ORCHESTRA
directed by

Maria Centola &
T. L. Hine



Special Music this Spring

May 11 - Mother's Day Music, 10 a.m. Service
One Worship Services at 10 a.m.

Celebrate Mother's Day with us on May 11 at a special Music Sunday service. Our choir, joined by The Unitarian Universalist Choir, and multiple instrumentalists, will present music by Randall Thompson set to poetry by Robert Frost. This will be a beautiful moment of reflection and gratitude for the nurturing love in our lives. We hope to see you Sunday!

June 1 - Lisa Williamson, Soprano, Joins Our Choir

On June 1, we are honored to welcome Lisa Williamson, soprano, for a sacred collaboration with our choir. Together, they will perform "Light of a Clear Blue Morning", filling our hearts with divine grace and inspiration.

Please plan to join us on these two Sundays for this special music!



May Calendar

Sat., May 10	MACC Volunteer Saturday, 2-5 p.m., MACC, 466 Main Street, Manchester, CT
Sun., May 11	Worship Services, 8:30 and 10 a.m., Mother's Day– Special Music
Tues., May 13	Deacons' Meeting, 7 p.m., Earle Smith room Pollinator Pathway Meeting, 7 p.m., Fellowship Hall, All are welcome.
Wed., May 14	Foreign Policy Discussion Group, 7-9 p.m., Youth Room
Thurs., May 15	Choir Rehearsal, 7 p.m., Fellowship Hall
Sun., May 18	Worship Services, 8:30 and 10 a.m., Children's Sunday Erin Murray's Celebration, 11:15 a.m., Community Room
Tues., May 20	Prayer Shawl Ministry, 10 a.m., Earle Smith room Outreach/Witness Ministry, 7 p.m. via Zoom
Wed., May 21	Hartford East Annual Meeting, 6:30 - 9 p.m., Fellowship Hall
Thurs., May 22	Foodshare Mobile Pantry, 11:30 a.m., WCC Parking Lot Choir Rehearsal, 7 p.m., Fellowship Hall Stephen Ministry, 7 p.m., Earle Smith room
Sun., May 25	Worship Services, 8:30 and 10 a.m.
Mon., May 26	Memorial Day, Church office closed
Tues., May 27	Oscar's All American Grill , 4-9 p.m. SPF Fundraiser, 855 Sullivan Ave.
Thurs., May 29	Choir Rehearsal, 7 p.m., Fellowship Hall
<u>Save the Dates!</u>	
M-F, Jun 23-27	Vacation Bible School, 9 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
Wed., June 25	Yard Goats Game , 7:10 p.m., see Len Dion for tickets (\$12 each)
Sun., June 29 -	SPF Mission Trip to Philadelphia
Sat., July 5	SPF Returns to CT

Oscar's All American Grill SPF Fundraiser

Please put Tuesday, May 27 on your calendar for dinner at Oscar's All American Grill at 855 Sullivan Avenue in South Windsor. Our SPF Youth Group will hold a fundraiser for their Mission Trip to Philadelphia. Eat in or take out from 4-9 p.m. The church will receive 15% of the proceeds.

What a win, win, win! You don't have to cook that night and you'll feel like you're at "Cheers" because everyone will know your name in the restaurant because it will be filled with your church family, and the Youth Group will receive a donation to benefit their mission trip! Hope you can join us!

Outreach Ministry Helps Our Community



Let's Celebrate Summer! at the next Community Dinner Friday, June 20th, 4-7 p.m.

Join us in fellowship as we share hotdogs, potato salad and dessert at WCC with the community. Bring your friends, neighbors, and families. If you would like to get involved and help us plan the dinner, come to our weekly meetings on Thursdays at 10 a.m., now through June 19 in the Earle Smith room. For more information, call Linda Manning, 860-833-5802 or send her an email at marie5131947@hotmail.com



More than 150 People Enjoyed
the Community Pasta Dinner
on March 14

Mother's Day Blanket Sunday - May 11

We're collecting donations for Church World Service's outreach program. Blankets are \$10 each and this simple act of kindness, sharing the gift of a blanket, will be given with love, to our neighbors near and far during their most challenging times. You can give a dedication in a loved one's honor, published in the May 25 bulletin.

We'll collect donations in the Community Room after services May 11. Please make checks payable to Wapping Community Church, with CWS Blankets in the memo line. You can also mail your check to us at: 1790 Ellington Rd., South Windsor, CT, 06074.

"Undie Sundays" was a Success!

You donated 581 items which we gave to MACC to be distributed to those in need. Thanks to all who so generously donated to this important clothing drive!



Spring Cleaning Reminder

As we clear out our winter coats for the season, please remember that WCC accepts clean, new or gently used winter coats throughout the year for our annual Foodshare Holiday Luncheon. Please leave your donations on the table in the Caring Ministry Room adjacent to the church library on the 2nd floor.



WCC Volunteers Packaged Pasta for
those in Need at Midwest Food Bank
on March 8



Youth Shine for Christ - Kids' Korner by Erin Murray

Church School Update:

Spring is a beautiful time of year when the winter weather subsides, and the flowers begin to bloom. "Be patient, then, brothers and sisters, until the Lord's coming. See how the farmer waits for the land to yield its valuable crop, patiently waiting for the autumn and spring rains." —James 5:7

Upcoming Events:

We are already planning for the fall. Please [register](#) for Church School, 2025-26:



Erin Murray
Church School
Coordinator

May 18th: Children's Sunday, all children in grades preschool through eighth will lead to 10 AM service. Sacred Dance will be featured!

Youth Choir on June 8th: Marika Kraus has put together a Children's Choir that will perform Sunday, June 8. Rehearsals for youth choir have already begun. Rehearsals will be held in the Chapel each Sunday 9:20-9:50am. We need all young singers, especially experienced choristers, for this one! Please send an email to marikajoy@mac.com and /or just show up!

April Recap:

Our Bibles & Faith Chest Presentation took place on April 6th. Our 3rd and 8th Graders received their Faith Chests and Bibles. Such a meaningful milestone as they continue to grow in faith.

Receiving Faith Chests: *Landon Kaman, Rowan Kaman, Stephanie Kwarteng, Alivia Rose Mace and Nolan Michael McCann*

Eighth Graders Receiving Bibles: *Greta Arline Johnson, Landon Kaman, Stephanie Kwarteng and Dillon Brian Leacu*

Third Graders Receiving Bibles: *Owen Clarke Briggs, Ian Christopher Davis, Hailey Marie Fago, Noah Anthony Honore-Duncan, Rowan Kaman, Alivia Rose Mace, Nolan Michael McCann, David Richard Roche and Nora Leigh Roche*



Palm Sunday, April 13th: The children participated in a parade commemorating Christ's triumphant entry into Jerusalem. Children waved palm branches to help greet, honor, and welcome Jesus Christ as he entered the city. We learned the story of Passover from the Book of Exodus when the Israelites were liberated from slavery in Egypt by Moses. This was an interactive lesson down in Fellowship Hall.



Palm Sunday Activities - April 13



JPF May Meeting

The next JPF Youth Group meeting is Sunday, May 18. All middle school youth are invited to attend. If anyone would like more information, please contact Patty Albrecht, 860-670-8058.

Fellowship Cafe NEEDS Volunteers! Sign up [here](#)

Fellowship Café Open Dates: 5/11, 5/18, 5/25, 6/1, 6/8, 6/15, 6/22
Contact Heather Fago with questions: heatherqutie@yahoo.com



Youth Shine for Christ



**Palm Sunday Church School Activity
(above)**



**Easter Sunday's Sacred Dancers
Brighten the Sanctuary (right)**

Vacation Bible School

Monday, June 23 - Friday June 27
9 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Ages 4-12 years

VBS "Discovery on Adventure Island"

Want to volunteer for VBS?
Please check out [our link](#).

[VBS Registration](#)



VBS Registration June 23-27, 2025



Please feel free to share the QR code for registration and also use the QR code for VBS payment. We already have 86 children registered!
Click on the links below for more information

[VBS Wish List](#)

[Volunteer Sign-up: \(ages 12+\)](#)

Next VBS Planning Meeting: May 18th, 11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

Faithfully, Board of Christian Faith Formation and Erin Murray, Church School Coordinator

Book of Life



Entered into Eternal Life

Elizabeth Susan Reynolds - May 10, 1934 - February 16, 2025

Pamela Ann Coleman Collins - August 31, 1942 - March 15, 2025

Joan Dresser Apel - February 17, 1935 - March 19, 2025

Judith LaPlante Gousse - April 13, 1940 - April 20, 2025

Cynthia Collins Waldron - January 18, 1930 - April 21, 2025

What is a Stephen Minister?

A Stephen Minister is:

- A child of God who walks beside a hurting person;
- A caring Christian who really listens;
- A member of our congregation who has received 50 hours of training in how to provide distinctively Christian care;
- A person who is ready to focus on your needs;
- A trustworthy confidant who will keep everything you say—and even your identity confidential; and
- Someone who will faithfully meet with you on a weekly basis for as long as your need persists.



A Stephen Minister is NOT:

- A counselor or therapist;
- A problem-solver;
- Someone who runs errands or helps with chores; or
- A casual visitor.

Our Stephen Ministers are ready to provide you with the confidential, one-on-one Christian care you need to make it through a crisis or help you through a difficult time. If you, or someone that you know of, could benefit from a Stephen Minister in our congregation, please contact Rev. Abernethy or Nancy Calabrese, 860-558-8830.

Church Staff

Ministers, all of the Members of the Church

Rev. Mark B. Abernethy, Senior Minister

Maria Centola, Director of Music Ministry

Kathy Brady, Office Administrator

Erin Murray, Church School Coordinator

Church Telephone: 860-644-0833

Email: Wappingoffice@gmail.com

MACC Volunteer Saturdays

May 10: 2- 5 p.m. - Sorting & Labeling Donations

Sept. 13: 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. - Food Preparation

November 15: 2- 5 p.m. - Food Preparation

We look forward to seeing you! We meet at MACC, 466 Main Street, Manches, CT. Contact Matt Desy, mattdesy01@gmail.com to sign up.