



Welcome Visitors

We're glad you're here! Please take a moment to sign a guest book at one of the doors and fill out a visitors card located in the pew and place it in the collection plate.

If you have children, they are most welcome in the service. Nursery care is available for children under 3 years old during the 9:00 and 10:30 services (9:30 during summer worship). Church School is available most Sundays during the 10:30 service for ages 3 – 8th Grade. An usher will be happy to assist you.

Restrooms: Exit the sanctuary through the door on the right. Proceed down the stairs and into Wesley Hall. Exit through the door at the far end of the hall...restrooms are located in that hallway. If you need to hang up a coat, you will find racks in the vestibule at the sanctuary entrance, and right outside the doors at the far end of Wesley Hall. Again, an usher will be happy to assist you.

Church Office: 860.651.3356, 799 Hopmeadow Street, Simsbury, CT 06070
website: www.simsburyumc.org

Church Office Hours: 9:30—4:30 Monday – Thursday (Closed Lunch 1:00-1:30); 9:30—2:30 Friday
Michelle Ebert, Office Manager & Secretary, Webmaster & E-Blast Coordinator, ext. 11
churchoffice@simsburyumc.org

Gene Ott: Pastor, ext. 14, gene@simsburyumc.org

Kari Miller: Organist, ext. 15, kari@simsburyumc.org

Bridget Scarlato: Music Director, ext. 15, bridget@simsburyumc.org

Dorothy Cowles: Contemporary Music Director, ext. 15, or 860.693.9799, dorothy@simsburyumc.org

Jody Swan: Church School Coordinator, 860.408.1478, jody@simsburyumc.org

Joanne Maurer: Little Lambs and Ivy Daycare Director, 860.408.9467, director@littlelambsandivy.org

Heather Ryan: Messenger (Monthly Newsletter) Editor, hryan@snet.net

LARGER PRINT HYMNALS ARE AVAILABLE. PLEASE ASK AN USHER.

Simsbury United Methodist Church

What's Happening *This Week*



today – Aug 12 Receiving Prayers Are:

Avon Health Care: Norma Kraussman

Governor's House: Peggy Rudolph

Hughes Health & Rehab Center: Joyce Garrod

McLean Home: Don Gebhardt, Barbara Tuller

Middlewoods: Don deNagy

The Hearth, Glastonbury: Jane Spangler

At Home: Jessica Baker, Betty Boissard, Emily Hammill, Graeme Marsele, and Karen Steinburg

Video Recording in Progress

We are blessed to have video and audio equipment in the church so that those unable to attend can watch the services live or on YouTube. When you are toward the front of the church you are part of the broadcast. If you prefer to NOT be recorded, please use the side aisles and sit behind the 4th pew. Ava and Maya are being just the cutest big sisters!

Final Welcome Gathering For Pastor Gene

Please join us for our final informal parties to get to know Gene, Erin, Isaac & Amelia and let them get to know you as well! Drop in for a few minutes or stay the whole time. All are welcome. See you there!

Saturday, August 18: 2:00- 4:00 pm

Snacks & refreshments hosted by Jan Bennett & Susan Samuel

10 Alderman Lane - East Granby

Contact Jan 860.658.0292 or Susan 860.653.9390

Office Closures for Vacation

It's the dog days of summer, and Michelle will be away on her annual vacation during the last 2 weeks of August, beginning Aug 20 and returning Sept 6.. There will be office coverage Mon—Thu from 9:30 am—2:30 pm, but **the office will be closed on Friday, August 24 and Friday, August 31.**

Thank you for your understanding and a warm thank you to those who have offered to help with office coverage! Even four or five names really makes a difference and is most appreciated! Enjoys these final weeks of summer before the hustle and bustle of the fall begins right after Labor Day weekend!

Covenant to Care Backpack Drive

Summer vacation will begin soon, but it is not too early to plan our backpack drive supporting children in need. Covenant to Care for Children (CCC) has once again asked if we'll provide LL Bean backpacks that they will fill with school supplies. Our goal this year is to collect 80 backpacks!! I know we can do it! **LL Bean is having its summer sale on backpacks now thru August 19!** Use Promo Code KIDS25 to get 25% Deluxe Book Packs. As always, comparable brand backpacks are appreciated. We can always shop for you; simply write "CCC backpack" in the check memo line, or on an envelope when giving cash, and drop it in the plate. Starting in August, a collection box for the backpacks will be located in Wesley Hall. To get the packs stuffed and to the kids before school starts, the collection deadline is **Sunday, August 19.** with any questions

Summer Pick-Up Choir on August 26!

Do you like to sing? Join the Summer Pickup Choir on August 26! Whether you are a long-term choir member or have only considered joining the choir, here is your first chance to sing in a choir with our new music leaders, Bridget and Kari. Simply meet in the choir room at 8:40 for a brief rehearsal; then sing at the 9:30 service. No vestments needed, no year long commitment needed, and no midweek rehearsals. Just come join us in worshipping God through song and get to know Bridget. Have questions? Please contact Director of Music, Bridget Scarlato, in person or through email at bridget@simsburyumc.org.

No Eblasts: Secretary on Vacation

Michelle is away on vacation through September 6, and while the office is being covered by her wonderful office volunteers, there will not be an eblast on August 23 or 30. The next eblast will be out just in time for Rally Day Sunday, so watch your inbox on September 7 for all the latest as we kick of a new church year!

Reminder: Newsletter Mailed to All

As we have done each year leading up to the Rally Day Sunday, the September Newsletter, the Messenger, is mailed to all active households in addition to being online. This issue is usually chock full of information as we begin anew so please be sure to watch for that in your mailbox the first week of September!

Men’s Book Group

The next Men’s Book Group meets on **Tuesday, August 28 at 7:00 pm** at the home of Al D’Agosto. The group is reading “*Homegrown Terror: Benedict Arnold and the Burning of New London*” by Eric D. Lehman. All men are welcome! Please contact Ross Fritschler with any questions.

Office Helpers

If you have daytime availability between 9:30 and 2:30, even half days morning or afternoon, and would be willing to help in the office occasionally, please let Michelle know. She can be reached in the office at 860.651.3356 or churchoffice@simsburyumc.org. Over the last year, several people who used to be helpers have moved away or availability has changed for a variety of reasons, and Michelle would like to grow the list of helpers once again. While computer experience is helpful, volunteers who would be able to assist with phone coverage and greeting visitors are also most welcome! Training and volunteer instructions are provided. Additionally, Michelle will be away on vacation at the end of August and traveling in mission to Uganda in late September. If you would be available even in the short term for either of these specific coverage periods, that too would be most helpful to both Michelle and all of our new staff members including Pastor Gene! If you have availability, we’d love to hear from you!

Christmas in July???

Calling all crafters-we need your help! In December, we will be hosting a Christmas workshop for children to buy Christmas presents for their loved ones. We would appreciate any homemade crafts like, jewelry, Christmas ornaments, stationary, pillows, etc. Plenty of time to craft through the lazy days of summer! For more information, please contact Heather Kaliden at rockwood7777@yahoo.com. Thank you!

Uganda Medical Supplies Drive Underway

Your donations will help the team treat those in need during their medical mission in Sep/Oct. They will also stock the “pharmacy” shelves at the Guiding Light Orphans clinic, in addition to the medications we will purchase “in country”. The collection of over-the-counter supplies is underway and continues through the summer. A handy shopping list can be found on the collection box in Wesley Hall. Please only new, unopened/unused medications that are not expired or expiring within 6 months can be accepted. Generic and store-brand products are fine. Monetary donations are always welcome; simply write "Uganda Medical" in the check memo line, or on the envelope if giving cash, and drop it in the plate or mail it to the office. If you have any questions, please call Michelle in the church office at 860.651.3356..

Women’s Retreat Registration Underway!

Last fall, a large group of SUMC Women spent “a time apart” for 24 hours at Mercy-by-the-Sea in Madison, CT. Participants worshipped and explored sacred creative expression through art, music, and writing. This event was a rousing success, and the Adult Spiritual Growth Committee is excited to announce that we will return to Mercy-by-the-Sea this fall on **October 5 and 6**. Why go on a retreat? It can be hard to hear God’s voice above the cacophony of everyday life. The word “retreat” means “a place of privacy or safety: a refuge”. It is truly a gift to spend 24 hours away from the hustle and bustle of our daily obligations. Like last year’s trip, we will enjoy the sea lapping at the shore and the opportunity to participate in reflective and creative activities. This year will incorporate more unstructured time, with worship and creativity “stations” that participants can use at their leisure. The retreat will run from Friday at 4:00 p.m. until Saturday at 4:00 p.m. The cost is \$120 double or \$150 single, which includes all materials, three meals, simple but lovely accommodations, and access to the center’s beautiful indoor and outdoor facilities. If cost is a concern, please contact one of the pastors for information on possible scholarships. Registration forms are located at both entrances to the sanctuary and on the bulletin board in the LLI hallway. Be sure to register early, as space is limited! If you have questions, please call Lori Garcia at 860.614.9140.

August 2018						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
12 8:00 AM Early Communion Service 9:30 AM Summer Worship Service 10:45 AM Summer DVD Class: Annex	13	14 1:00 PM District Committee on Ordained Ministry Meeting: Barn 6:30 PM Security Awareness Meeting: Barn	15 5:15 PM Prayer Group Meeting: Annex Prayer Room	16	17	18 2:00 PM Welcome Gathering for Pastor Ott: Snacks & Refreshments: Home of Susan Samuel
19 8:00 AM Early Communion Service 9:30 AM Summer Worship Service 10:45 AM Summer DVD Class: Annex 3:30 PM Uganda Team Meeting: Barn	20 6:30 PM Worship Committee Meeting: Barn	21	22 5:15 PM Prayer Group Meeting: Annex Prayer Room	23	24	25