



## THE CIRCLE CHURCH NEWS

October 2019

North Madison Congregational Church  
United Church of Christ  
1271 Durham Road  
Madison, CT 06443

### Interim Pastor's Notes

#### Next

by Rev. Matt McCaffrey

This message comes to you in the wake of our NoMad church's Candidating Weekend. The Rev. Dr. Heather Arcovitch met, greeted, ate with, socialized, conversed, and preached on a pair of beautiful, warm September days. Your openness to her candidacy, your hospitality to Rev. Heather and her partner Barb, and your unanimous vote to call her as your next settled Pastor and Teacher are reverberating this week.

As the echoes (and, I suspect, some "sugar highs") fade away, it's natural to wonder what's next. The congregation called a new pastor. Are we done with transition yet?

Well, look at the headline again. We are still in a transition period. It's just that the months and weeks are now down to days.

In these days – 60 of them, more or less – is there any transition left to do? You bet!

For starters, every Board, committee, and team in our congregation is making plans for receiving your new pastor. All of our dreams about what *could be* have now been embodied into what *will be*. You now have an idea of the dreams and vision that Rev. Heather will be bringing to North Madison as she begins her ministry with you. You also have made an actual commitment to support that ministry in concrete ways.

That means adjustments to budgets and forecasts, and it will mean recognizing that appeals for your financial support are based on new realities. That means you will be entering new conversations about our witness and work in the world, and it will mean listening for new opportunities and challenges in our common work.

Why all these adjustments? you may ask. Haven't we been comfortable with what we've been doing and who does it? you may want to know. Who asked for this?

You did.

In my opinion, and having seen *many* search committees' results during my time in ministry, I am thoroughly impressed with how diligent, how discerning, and even how obsessed your Search Committee was with listening to you. The church's "profile" captured your dreams and desires, your setting for ministry, as well as such a document ever could. And their "report" – Rev. Heather – embodies that profile in a way that would make other search committees envious.

I think we are at this place because the Search Committee didn't seek to replicate what you had before.

They were looking for what's next.

How that works out is in God's purview, but it depends on your own listening hearts and willing hands. I suspect it will work out very well indeed.

Yours in Christ,

Rev. Matt

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## - Children and Youth Ministries -



Hi Friends! This year is off to a fantastic start! Our CE team and I have enjoyed getting to know our kids and teens a bit more through Welcome Sunday, Church School and the SYG/JYG kickoff BBQ. Huge thanks to all of the adults who helped to make these events fun!

It truly takes a village - and we are eager to continue to build our village with our children and teens at the center. Below is an on-going opportunity for NMCC adults and friends to help us to do just that, called Creative Church:

**Creative Church** - Share your hobby/interest with our kids while sharing your love of God:

This year there is a new opportunity for adults in our community to share their hobbies and passions with our kids during Church School, called Creative Church.

Oct. 27th will be our first Creative Church when Kathy Bannon will share Yoga with our children of all ages. Please contact Sue if you would like to lead a 35-45 minute class of your choosing. Kids, get ready for yoga on Oct. 27 - come dressed to move. We have mats for all.

**Exciting news!** Thanks to Frank Walsh & Jackie Fix, we are in the middle of furnishing a new Youth Room downstairs! This space will be a comfortable place for our pre/teens to relax and meet, and will also provide a cozy spot for our preschool to use during the week, and for smaller church groups to meet on non-youth group evenings. Still in search of a coffee table if anyone has any leads.

**Sue's office hours:** Tues/Thurs 11:30-3:30(ish), Sunday mornings and other days during the week as needed. Please email or call Sue at any time to arrange a time to meet. cell - 203.843.6206

Youth Groups

## Upcoming Youth Events:



### JYG:

- Friday, Oct. 18, 6:30-8:30 Fun Event Out - watch for a Doodle Poll this week to determine activity!
- Saturday, Nov. 2, NMCC, Help at Harvest Dinner, time TBD

### SYG:

- Sunday, Oct. 6, 6:30-8:00, NMCC Fellowship Hall - Join us for community building activities and discussions about what you would like to experience this year in youth group
- Sunday, Oct. 27 Halloween Prep-Trunk or Treat or Dinner/Craft to help others, 6:00-8:00, NMCC
- Thursday, Oct. 31, Town Green, 4:00-6:00 - to be confirmed! stay tuned . . .
- Saturday, Nov. 2, Harvest Dinner Help

## Junior & Senior HS kids! Overnight experiences on the horizon . . .

### Mark your calendars!

SYG - please email Sue: [CE@norhtmadisoncc.org](mailto:CE@norhtmadisoncc.org) to attend an overnight experience and look out for the Doodle Poll this week!

- Friday, Nov. 22-Sunday, Nov. 24, Silver Lake Action Weekend - if enough participants, \$45/student.
- Friday, Jan. 31-Sat. Feb. 1 St. John the Divine Cathedral Interfaith Sleepover in NYC, \$95 per student and Metro North Train Fare - will need deposits asap

### JYG

- Friday, Feb. 28-March 1 Silver Lake Confirmation Retreat, Sue is facilitating, \$160 per person
- Friday, March 27 - Saturday, March 28 In-house Mission Sleepover (Columbus House)

### SYG/JYG

- Friday & Saturday, April 25-Sunday, April 26 Chapel on the Green, Friday, April 25 - sleep at NMCC



**Messy Church** - I attended a lively and informative Messy Church training with the UCC CT, RI and MA Conferences (with participants from the Methodist and Presbyterian churches) last weekend and came back energized and ready to bring the possibility of hosting Messy Church here at NMCC in the coming year. Please stay tuned for upcoming discussions about this new way for us to do church with people of all ages in our community who don't currently do church. Think celebration, hands on activities, and joyful worship experiences where everyone is welcomed. Please feel free to give me a call if you'd like a preview!



**Nursery Room Update:** Exciting news! Please join us in welcoming Alicia Lanzetti as our new nursery care provider! Alicia comes to us with many years of experience as a nanny for local families, including the Lehman-Wolf family. Alicia is a senior at Southern State University and will graduate in May with a degree in social work. A 2016 graduate of Daniel Hand High School, Alicia grew up in Madison and has participated in church life here at NMCC. Alicia started Sunday, Sept. 8th. Please invite friends with young children to worship with us!

With love,  
Sue

## - Community Outreach / Fund Raisers -



**Harvest Dinner! Come join us for an evening & meal to remember!  
You won't be disappointed!**

Dine in, or take out! The delicious meal starts with salad and our famous dressing, homemade pumpkin muffins followed by platters of roast turkey, stuffing, mashed potatoes and gravy, mashed turnips, fresh green beans, cranberry sauce, ending with home-baked apple or pumpkin pie and beverages. *Wow!*

**When?** **Saturday November 2, 2019**  
2 Seatings: 5:00 pm and 6:30 pm  
Take Out: 5:00 - 7:00 pm

**Where?** North Madison Congregational Church

**Cost?** \$20 per person  
\$16 seniors (age 65 and over)  
\$10 children 12 and under  
\$16 generous take-out meal

Reservations required. Email the NMCC office at [office@northmadisoncc.org](mailto:office@northmadisoncc.org) and note on the subject line "Harvest Dinner" or call 203-421-3241. Parties of 4 or more should send payment in advance to NMCC Harvest Dinner, 1271 Durham Road, Madison, CT 06443. ***See you there!***



**Ministry Resource Team Update:** Four of our Outreach ministries were active this month serving Nicaragua and Appalachia, New Haven's homeless and youth scholars and our neighbors in North Madison:

- **Columbus House** - We provided 2 Saturday morning breakfasts in September, though the folks who stay in to dine continue to be light as it has been all summer. Thank you to the faithful chefs to serve all year round.
- **CT Quest for Peace** - Donations are quickly filling up Karen Miller's garage and more coming in every week for Nicaragua and Appalachia. We've extended the collection to October 27 so let's keep up a strong push - even some our yoga students were curious enough to take a list of what's needed. See below for those details.

- **St. Martin de Porres Academy** - Outreach Ministry Champion Karen Miller introduced volunteer opportunities at SMPA on Welcome Sunday after we watched a very moving video in which the students spoke of how volunteers and the entire staff have impacted their lives. Peter Meier, who volunteers at SMPA, provided a special message about a particularly difficult student who later thanked him for not giving up on him. So far 5 potential volunteers have stepped forward to discuss with Allison how they might get involved.

Karen has also kicked off a Giving Tree campaign designed to add books to the SMPA library, or provide other school supplies to students, which will run through October 6. In addition, Karen has posted a number of registration forms to donate to or play in the SMPA Scholarship Fund Raiser in October. Details below. Questions or interested in volunteering? Contact Karen at [dksamiller@msn.com](mailto:dksamiller@msn.com) or 203-915-2989

- **Yoga** - Our community Yoga classes held on Mondays began a new session on September 9<sup>th</sup> and the Thursday classes began September 12 - 3 new yogis saw the sign out front and have decided to join in. The first Monday we had 19 students!

### Coming up in October:

**Breakfast at Columbus House:** Upcoming dates October 12 (led by Miles Dunn) and October 26 (led by Susan Christiano). Meet at Columbus House at 6:30 am (or join a carpool). Sign up (back hall) to purchase and prepare eggs, toast, juice, potatoes or sausages. If you would like to serve breakfast, but find the cost of purchasing difficult, please contact Roberta Hanlon [roberthanlon@msn.com](mailto:roberthanlon@msn.com), 203-623-9834 or Peter Meier [peterm190@yahoo.com](mailto:peterm190@yahoo.com), 203421-8377 to get reimbursed.

**CT Quest for Peace:** We will collect goods through Sunday, October 27 (extended date!) for CT Quest for Peace for a shipment to Nicaragua. Our focus for this collection is school supplies - even used pens, pencils, notebooks, etc. Other items desperately needed: Summer clothing -- Shoes, sneakers, flip flops, sandals -- Backpacks for school -- Sports equipment: soccer, baseball, basketball -- Linens: towels, sheets, pillow cases, light blankets -- Sewing materials: fabric, thread, needles, sewing machines, scissors -- Candles and candle holders -- Kitchenware: plastic items (glasses, plates, etc.), china, knives, forks, spoons, pots, pans, serving dishes, and insulated coolers -- Musical instruments - - Tools: garden, mechanical, carpentry, electrical -- Office supplies -- Medical supplies: vitamins, moisturizing lotions, peroxide, rubbing alcohol, over-the-counter medicines -- Hygiene supplies: toothbrushes, toothpaste, large bars of soap, shampoo, combs, band aids, antiseptic cream, small mirrors -- Computers (Pentium 4 or better), flat screen monitors, computer accessories.

We are also collecting warm weather clothing for people in Appalachia. Please clearly mark separate containers for each destination. Karen Miller has been collecting the goods and storing them at her house. Please leave them under the Giving Tree in Fellowship Hall.

- **St. Martin de Porres Academy:** There are still volunteer openings at SMPA. Other ways you can make a difference: donate books and school supplies needed for the SMPA library or sponsor and/or play a round of golf at their upcoming fundraiser on October 7:

*Giving Tree:* The NMCC Giving Tree is filled with gift cards for books are for the SMPA library and other student supplies needed to to kick off the new academic year. Please drop off the items or a check for the value of the card in an envelope with the card and place them in the basket under the Giving Tree by October 6).

*Golf for Kids Scholarship Tournament.* Join and/or sponsor SMPA on Monday, October 7 at the Great River Golf Club, Milford, CT. Visit the tournament website for details: <https://www.saintmartinacademy.org/golf-fore-kids-scholarship-tournament/>.

Questions/Get Involved? Contact Karen Miller at [dksamiller@msn.com](mailto:dksamiller@msn.com), 203-915-2989.

• **Yoga** – The Monday night session at 6:30 pm will run October 28 at 6:30 pm, with no class on Columbus Day (October 14). Thursday night's session at 6:30 pm will run October 24. The cost per class is \$10. Sessions are in Fellowship Hall. Any questions? Contact Karen Chapman at [krchapman@comcast.net](mailto:krchapman@comcast.net) or text her at 203-314-9299



**News From Fire In The Kitchen and there Skunk Misery Ramblers:** In the past, some of you have reserved for the concerts a little on the late side, meaning that your seats were towards the rear. For this past concert, with Väsen, folks reserved from as far away as NYC and upstate New York months in advance. That's how well-known the series is. Out-of-staters make up about 25% of the audience, so getting in line early is pretty smart! Two events this fall are worth knowing about sooner rather than later. On October 26, it's Damn Tall Buildings, and yeah, people have been emailing to reserve since July. They have a super-fun take on bluegrass-gone-soul-and-R&B. On November 9th, it's the Terrible Mountain String Band and the great-sort-of-annual Big Barn Dance. This is a blast for families and you older folks alike. Great music, contra dancing for beginners, and ice cream. What could be better? If you want to come to either, email Charlie at [workdog@mindspring.com](mailto:workdog@mindspring.com). If you reserve, try to make it. Cancelling costs everyone dough, but we don't want money ahead of time, as sometimes life tosses you a curveball.

On the Skunk Misery Rambler front, we spread good tunes and happy vibes at the Guilford Performing Arts Festival this Sunday (the 29th) in the back of the Hyland House.

On October 6th, we'll be on the Guilford green having a great time as musical hosts of the Crop Walk. That's around 1:30 or so. Are you walking? Even if you're not, be there and support those who are! November 17th puts us up at the Killingworth Congregational Church helping them raise a few bucks for the preservation of their church, which is in need of lots of care. Hope to see you all somewhere!



**Tag Sale Update:** We're always looking for items we can post on Craigslist or consign at local shops. *New:* hurricane lamps. See our items posted on Craigslist: <http://northmadisoncc.org/calendar-events/tag-sale/>.

**Holiday decor wanted for consignment.** Looking for a home for your holiday decorations? Clear out your old ornaments, collectibles, decorations, etc.! Here are a few best sellers: ornaments (especially vintage!) - santas and snowmen - garland & sprays - trees & wreaths - Spode - Dept 56 Villages - Byers Choice - Radko - glassware & dinnerware - tree toppers and skirts - snow globes - and more! They should be in excellent condition. If you have items to donate for our "virtual" tag sale, please send a photo to [robertahanlon@msn.com](mailto:robertahanlon@msn.com) or text 203-500-8311.



**Wall of Money Air Conditioner Campaign:** Thank you for your support of the Wall of Money Air Conditioner Campaign. To date we have sold over 81 envelopes and raised over \$4,000. Our goal is to sell 100 envelopes and raise \$5,000 plus. Please feel free to purchase your envelope off the board through the end of October, or until they're gone!

The next phase of the campaign will be for Property and Planning and the Board of Finance to finalize the estimate for the air conditioner and prepare a capital expenditure request for the congregation to approve at the December budget meeting. Early estimates for the system are in the range of \$25,000 to \$30,000.

The Capital request will require NMCC to approve a capital expenditure to supplement the money collected from the Wall of Money. Please make your purchase as we embark on this exciting program.

If you any questions please contact Calvin Price at [wildwood9@msn.com](mailto:wildwood9@msn.com)

## - Get Involved / Stay Connected -



There so many ways to get involved in making NMCC a vibrant community not only through the work of our Outreach Ministries but helping out, sharing your skills, learning new ones enjoying the fellowship that naturally follows through working on projects together. Visit our "[Get Involved](#)" web page for ongoing news at [northmadisoncc.org](http://northmadisoncc.org).



**Men's Group Retreat:** Men's retreat Oct 4, 5, 6. Griswold Point, Old Lyme, CT. Fellowship, Time to recharge, Meet old friends and some new friends. Contact Peter Haff to sign up, [pbhaff@sbcglobal.net](mailto:pbhaff@sbcglobal.net) or 203 415 2773.



**Generosity Season:** Our Generosity Season is just around the corner, that time of year when we reflect on what we've accomplished over this past year and begin planning what we want to do in 2020. As a reminder our church is 100% self-supporting and relies on pledges of time and talents to support the various missions and purpose. Keep an eye out for information in the mail describing this year's theme.

It's also that time of the church year when all the various committees review their budgets with the Board of Finance. The Executive Committee then puts forth a budget proposal at the semi-annual congregational meeting in December when members vote on a budget that begins with the new calendar year on January 1.

Generosity Season kicks off during worship on October 6 and culminates on October 27th, Gratitude Sunday, with the blessing of pledge cards being brought forth during the offering.



**Update Your Directory Information:** Please review your information in the church directory and update your photos. Changes can be written in the copy of the directory on the easel in fellowship hall or submitted directly to the church office, [office@northmadisoncc.org](mailto:office@northmadisoncc.org). It will be a big help to Heather and those new to the church to be able to identify names to faces! Thank You!



**Intergenerational Choir:** We are excited to announce that in this rotation of "Intergenerational Choir" we will also be using the Hand Chimes! Some of you will recall seeing them in May when we sang (Lucy and Emily were playing them). We need as many of you as possible! There are 16 bells to be used... so come and bring your friends. Rehearsals begin October 20 after church. See you there!



**Crafters Wanted for NMCC's 25<sup>th</sup> Annual Holiday Craft Fair** December 7, 2019 9:00 am to 2:00 pm. To apply visit our web site: <http://northmadisoncc.org/calendar-events/craft-fair/> or call 203-421-3241 for more information.



**The "Ask Rev Matt" mailbox** is ready for your questions! Although the box is set at a height for our younger members, Rev Matt is glad to receive questions from any of us. You'll find the mailbox right outside the interim pastor's office, along with notecards and pencils, for anything you'd like to ask about our transition time, things that came up in worship, life, the universe...anything! Rev Matt will do his best to respond: mostly on the bulletin board over the box, sometimes in the newsletter, and maybe even as part of a Sunday morning message. Ask away!



**Church Security:** Please make sure when you leave the building that all doors are locked and securely closed behind you. With humidity, sometimes they don't latch, so make sure to test them to make sure they're latched and locked. Thank You!



**Televised Sunday Worship - Videographers Needed:** We are looking for 2 to 3 individuals - teens and adults of any age are welcome - to record Sunday worship from the balcony. You don't need to be technical - you just need to connect 3 cables to the camera and put a DVD in and hit "record." Having an eye for good "theater" helps with close ups and creative videotaping. More details are available in the May newsletter. If you are interested, please contact Tim Murphy, [timmurphy6050@att.net](mailto:timmurphy6050@att.net).

## - Circle Nursery School -



**Circle Nursery School** is proud to announce that we are a winner in the Preschool category in the 2019 "Best on the Shoreline" Reader's Choice Awards!

Also, CNS is running a Butter Braid/Otis Spunkmeyer fundraiser. If interested in purchasing, all orders need to be into Kathy Niejadlik no later than October 18th. A check made out to Circle Nursery School is needed at the time of ordering (order forms and checks can be left in the CNS mail slot in the office). Delivery will be on November 13th, just in time for holiday entertaining. All items are delivered frozen and are ready to go right in your freezer. Some order forms will be on the table by the door in Fellowship Hall.

## - In the News & Noteworthy -



**NMCC and Members in the News:** We often spot an article in the local paper, *Patch* or in other news outlets, and have been posting them on our bulletin and our Facebook page. We'd like to expand the coverage and add a feature about this type of news in the monthly newsletter. Please send or drop off the news articles you find to the office at [office@northmadisoncc.org](mailto:office@northmadisoncc.org) and we'll be sure to include them!

## - In the Community -



**16<sup>th</sup> Annual Roslyn Young Memorial Concert:** “Bohemian Rhapsody: Chamber Music of Antonin Dvorak” Sunday, October 13<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 pm, at First Congregational Church of Madison. The concert, which is part of the Music at the Meetinghouse series, will feature the New York Classical Quartet with Julia Bady, pianist. There will be a pre-concert talk at 3:15 pm, and a reception following the concert. Tickets are \$20 at the door, under 18 free. Roslyn Young, sister of Linda Young, grew up in Guilford, performing on violin and viola at the Connecticut Early Music Festival, as well as in New York, and throughout the United States and Europe.

## Office, Board and Committee Contacts:

<b>Interim Minister:</b> Rev. Matt McCaffrey	203-421-3241
<b>Office:</b> Jackie Fix, Office Manager; Susan O'Connor, Clerk	203-421-3241
<b>Minister of Music:</b> Linda Juliani	860-399-0210
<b>Choir Director:</b> Bill Clemmons	203-421-3484
<b>Minister of Faith Formation &amp; Youth Ministry:</b> Sue Timony-Hall	203-245-1531
<b>Circle Nursery School:</b> Kathy Niejadlik	203-421-0997

### OFFICERS

Executive Committee Chair, Jim Farrales	203-421-9323
Executive Committee Vice Chair, Tom Lauher	203-530-7467
Board of Deacons Members*:	See Below
Clerk, Eileen McCann	203-623-9155
Assistant Clerk, OPEN	
Treasurers, Michele Mauro	860-663-8009
and Keith Luckenbach	203-421-5054
Assistant Treasurer, John Gallops	860-460-8573
Financial Secretary/Disbursements, Open	
Asst. Financial Secretary/Disbursements, Open	
Financial Secretary/Receipts, Susan O'Connor	203-457-1559
Asst. Financial Secretary/Receipts - Calvin Price	203-245-8566

Carol Anne Bachhuber 203-747-4840; \* Kate Summerlin 203-453-0700; Susan Christiano, 203-314-8853; Peter Haff, 203-415-2773; Melissa Blundon, 203-421-4465; Orlene Gallops 860-339-5844; Dawn Barber, 203-457-1868; \* Sandy Dickson 203-421-1178; Susan Kenney 203-530-1153

### BOARDS/COMMITTEES/TEAMS

Board of Christian Ed Chair, Janice Wolf	203-421-6776
Board of Deacons Co-Chair, Kate Summerlin	203-988-1993
Co-Chair, Sandy Dickson	203-421-1178
Board of Finance, TBD	
Communications Team Leader, Roberta Hanlon	203-421-4891
Hospitality Chair, Martha Nichols	860-346-2000
Human Resources Chair, Jim Farrales	203-421-9323
Ministry Resource Team Leader, Roberta Hanlon	203-500-8301
Music Chair, TBD	
Pastoral Relations, Chair, TBD	
Property & Planning Chair, Tom Lauher	203-530-7467
Quiet Ministry Chair, Linda Young	203-457-0723
Cong. Life Ministry Team Co-Chair, Ken Nichols	860-346-2000
Co Chair, Jim Farrales	203-421-9323



**Online Giving Available on our Website:** Visit the church website at [www.NorthMadisonCC.org](http://www.NorthMadisonCC.org), click on "Online Giving" in the headers at the top of the page and follow the instructions, or scan to pay or give →



