

First United Methodist Church
of Shelton, Connecticut
Open hearts. Open minds. Open doors.



**January 19, 2025 at 10:00 AM – 2nd Sunday After the Epiphany
Human Relations Day**

Revised Common Lectionary Texts:

Isaiah 62:1-5 | Psalm 36:5-10
1 Corinthians 12:1-11 | John 2:1-11

Prelude: "Love Lifted Me"

Smith

Welcome & Announcements

Human Relations Day Informational Video

Centering Prayer

***Call to Worship:**

UMC Discipleship Ministries (Adapted)

Leader: Be still for a moment. What do you hear? What do you smell?
What do you feel under your feet? Beloved, God is here.

People: In the familiar and commonplace, God is here with us.

L: Take a moment to look around. Whom do you notice? Who isn't here
that you expected to see? Whether this community feels brand new or
familiar to you, God is here.

P: In the new and unfamiliar, in the challenges, God is here with us.

L: Take a deep breath. We share this air and space, this worship home
together. In our breathing and worshiping right now, God is here.

P: In the familiar and unfamiliar, God is here with us.

L: God is here. May we pay attention and discern how God brings us
together in the familiar and the unfamiliar to be and become the Body
of Christ.

**P: May we notice and join in God's work of forming us for community
and living our faith in Christ as we worship today. Amen.**

***Opening Hymn:** "Lift Every Voice and Sing"

UMH 519

Invitation to and Prayer of Confession (Unison)

Alsgaard/UMCDM

Lord, we need a miracle today. Like Jesus changing water into wine at the wedding feast in Cana, we need a miracle today.

We are tired, Lord, of the hurts of this world. We are discouraged in the face of injustice, war, poverty, and indifference. We need a miracle today, Lord.

Your steadfast love, like a mighty mountain will not be moved. Your gifts, as many as the mighty winds, cannot be counted. Your glory, like a mighty torch, will not be put out.

Lord, crown us with your love. Show us your glory, that in you we may be moved to acts of kindness, love, justice, and mercy.

Lord, we need a miracle today. Amen.

Silent Confessional Prayer & Words of Assurance

The Psalm: Psalm 36:5-10

This is the Word of God for the people of God.
Thanks be to God.

The Epistle Lesson: 1 Corinthians 12:1-11

This is the Word of God for the people of God.
Thanks be to God.

Children's Message: "Gifts to Serve"

Children's Hymn: "This Little Light of Mine" (v.1-2)

UMH 585

***Gospel Lesson:** John 2:1-11

This is the Word of God for the people of God.
Thanks be to God.

Sermon: "Not Exactly What You Had in Mind"

Anthem: "As a Fire is Meant for Burning"

R. Duck

Prayers of the People & Pastoral Prayer
The Lord's Prayer

Passing of the Peace

Invitation To Offer Our Gifts

Offertory: "Reflection"

Hayes

***Presenting Our Gifts:** "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow." UMH 95

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

***Prayer of Dedication**

UMC Discipleship Ministries (Adapted)

Generous God, who turns water into wine and scarcity into abundance, we offer our gifts to you with grateful hearts. May these offerings be transformed, just as you transform our lives with your grace. Guide us to use these resources to meet the needs we see around us, to share your love, and to build your kingdom. Let us show all around us that there is hope in you as we work to life others up in Christian love. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

***Sending Hymn:** "We Are the Church"

UMH 558

Benediction

Postlude: "The Solid Rock"

Bradbury

*Please stand in body or spirit as you are able.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BOOK STUDY BEGINS JANUARY 22

The new book study led by Pastor Bill will begin Wednesday, January 22 at 7 PM. All participants will receive the link for the Zoom sessions later this week directly from Pastor Bill.

OUTREACH FOODS DONATIONS: THRU FEBRUARY 2

We will be collecting donations to support Outreach Foods, the organization that provided us with a more-than-generous supply of fortified, nutritious food for those who rely on our Blessing Box micro-pantry. **Our goal is \$2,400.** Please give generously by February 2 to support the effort. If you have already given, thank you!

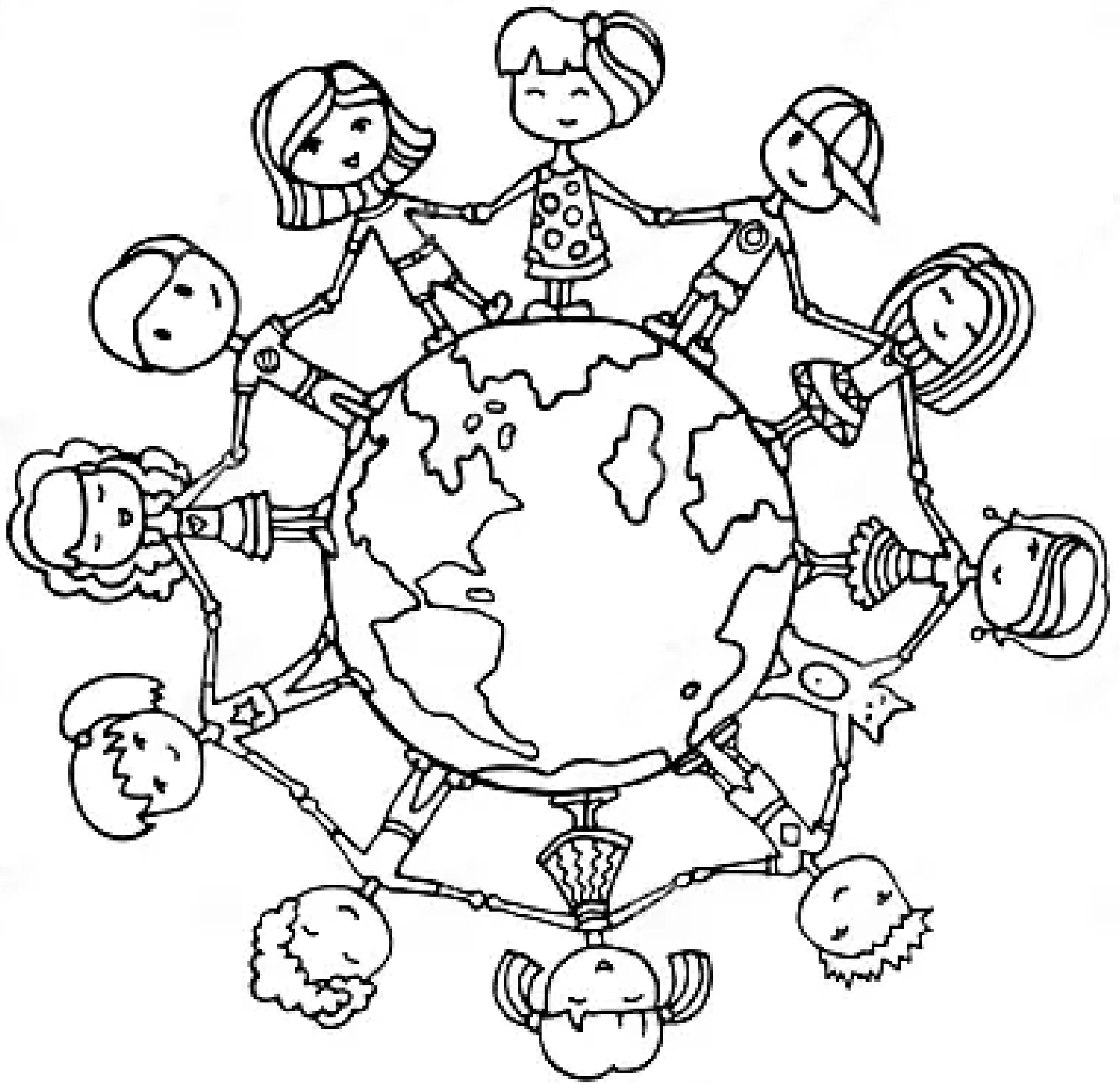
NEW MEMBERS: MARCH 2

Our next New Members Sunday will be on **March 2** during our Sunday worship. Please speak with Pastor Bill during January if you would like to join First United Methodist Church of Shelton through profession of faith.

All who will join on March 2 will be asked to attend a new member class on **Saturday, February 15 from 9:00 – 11:30 AM.** New members will receive a new member education booklet, *Our Membership Vows*, and a certificate of membership during the March 2 worship service.

LOOKING AHEAD: SOUPER BOWL OF CARING 2025 & SCOUT SUNDAY - FEB 9

We will once again observe Scouting Ministries Sunday on February 9. We will also repeat our support of **Tackle Hunger** through the **2025 Souper Bowl of Caring**. Scout Troop 25 will participate in our worship. Food and cash donations will also be accepted that Sunday. Non-perishable food donations will be channeled to our Blessing Box. Cash donations will be given to Spooner House to support their Valley Regional Food Bank service. Please do what you can to share our abundance on the day of the Big Game!



Human Relations Day

TO REACH PASTOR BILL

Please call or text 475-282-2800. He may also be reached via email: pastor@umcshelton.org. His office hours at the church office are Mondays and Fridays from 8:30 am to 1:30 pm (but may vary from week to week).

WEEKLY EMAIL NEWSLETTER

An email newsletter is sent out each Wednesday. Please have any items for submission to the church office by Wednesday at 9 am. If you are not receiving the emails, sign up on the church website or drop a not into the collection plate with your name, email address, and an indication that you want to receive the weekly update.

SERVING TODAY:

Bill Florin, Pastor
Ron Giannattasio, Organist
Karen Dains, Liturgist
Sal Iorfino, Video & Sound Tech

CHURCH LEADERSHIP:

Bill Florin, Pastor
Ron Giannattasio, Organist

Bob Singletary, Chair. of Church Council
Elaine Wood, Chair. of Staff Parish Relations Committee
Bob Wood, Chair. of the Board of Trustees

WELCOME

We welcome you to our worship and our church community. We are so glad you are here. We invite you to participate in the service as much as you feel comfortable and to sit out parts of the service you might not yet feel comfortable with. Wherever you are in your journey of faith, you are welcome here. As our "Welcoming Statement" says, "We welcome **all** to full inclusion in the life and ministry of our church."

(see below for complete "Welcome" and "Mission" statements)

**SUNDAY WORSHIP // 10:00 also live-streamed & recorded
Fellowship 11:00 am**

Welcoming Church Statement

A welcoming family of God committed to becoming more and more like Jesus Christ.

We affirm and respect each individual as a child of God. We celebrate the uniqueness of each person and welcome people of every age, ethnicity, and race, sexual orientation and gender identity, marital status, socio-economic situation, and physical/mental ability.

Empowered by the Holy Spirit, we strive to create a community of faith that reflects Christ's message of love and justice. We invite all to full inclusion in the life and ministry of our church in Christ.

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF SHELTON
188 ROCKY REST RD. // SHELTON, CT 06484
PHONE: (203)929-3537 WEB: UMCSHELTON.ORG

Lift Every Voice and Sing UMH 519

Lift every voice and sing,
till earth and heaven ring,
ring with the harmonies of liberty;
let our rejoicing rise
high as the listening skies,
let it resound loud as the rolling sea.
Sing a song full of the faith that the dark past has taught us;
sing a song full of the hope that the present has brought us;
facing the rising sun of our new day begun,
let us march on till victory is won.

Stony the road we trod,
bitter the chastening rod,
felt in the days when hope unborn had died;
yet with a steady beat,
have not our weary feet
come to the place for which our fathers sighed?
We have come over a way that with tears has been watered;
we have come, treading our path thru the blood of the slaughtered,
out from the gloomy past, till now we stand at last
where the white gleam of our bright star is cast.

God of our weary years,
God of our silent tears,
thou who hast brought us thus far on the way;
thou who hast by thy might
led us into the light, keep us forever in the path, we pray.
Lest our feet stray from the places, our God, where we meet thee;
lest our hearts drunk with the wine of the world, we forget thee;
shadowed beneath thy hand, may we forever stand,
true to our God, true to our native land.

This Little Light of Mine (v 1-2) UMH 585

This little light of mine,
I'm goin'a let it shine,
this little light of mine,
I'm goin'a let it shine;

this little light of mine,
I'm goin'a let it shine,
let it shine,
let it shine,
let it shine.

Everywhere I go,
I'm goin'a let it shine,
everywhere I go,
I'm goin'a let it shine,
everywhere I go,
I'm goin'a let it shine,
let it shine,
let it shine,
let it shine.

We Are the Church UMH 558

Refrain:

I am the church!
You are the church!
We are the church together!
All who follow Jesus,
all around the world!
Yes, we're the church together!

The church is not a building,
the church is not a steeple,
the church is not a resting place,
the church is a people.

We're many kinds of people,
with many kinds of faces,
all colors and all ages, too,
from all times and places.

Sometimes the church is marching,

sometimes it's bravely burning,
sometimes it's riding, sometimes hiding,
always it's learning.

And when the people gather,
there's singing and there's praying,
there's laughing and there's crying sometimes,
all of it saying:

At Pentecost some people
received the Holy Spirit
and told the Good News through the world
to all who would hear it.