



# at the Corner

September/October 2020

## Thanks for the memories **Susan Maddox and Grete Nyrop:**

We are a better church because of  
your dedication and selflessness.



FOR INFORMATION ON  
ZOOM ONLINE EVENTS,

INCLUDING  
BIBLE STUDY  
AND SUNDAY  
WORSHIP, GO TO  
COME2CORNERSTONE.ORG



Cornerstone  
Community  
Church

718 West Ave.  
Norwalk, CT 06850  
203-866-3707  
office@come2cornerstone.org  
www.come2cornerstone.org

Office hours:  
M, T, Th 10-1, W & F 1:30-4:30

**Pastor**  
Rev. Elizabeth C. Abel

**Lay Leaders**  
Pat Bobwich, Amy Silvester

**Council Chair**  
Jay Silvester

**Office Administrator**  
Pamela Toason

**Church Musician**  
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**Finance Chair**  
Andy Trowbridge

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Glenn Gabagat

**Treasurer**  
Gwen Hong

**Sunday School Superintendent**  
Megan Krois

**Cornerstone Early Learning  
Center Director**  
Debra Horton

**Editors, The Messenger**  
Nancy Kenworthy  
Lynn Russo Whyly

*If you have news or concerns you would like communicated to the church, please have your information to Nancy Kenworthy by the first of the month for the following month's issue.*

## Lectionary

### September 27

17th Sunday after Pentecost  
Exodus 17:1-7  
Psalm 78:1-4, 12-16  
Philippians 2:1-13  
Matthew 21:23-32

### October 4

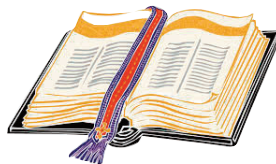
18th Sunday after Pentecost; World Communion Sunday  
Exodus 20:1-4, 7-9, 12-20  
Psalm 19  
Philippians 3:4b-14  
Matthew 21:33-46

### October 11

19th Sunday after Pentecost  
Exodus 32:1-14  
Psalm 106:1-6, 19-23  
Philippians 4:1-9  
Matthew 22:1-14

### October 18

Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost  
Exodus 33:12-23  
Psalm 99  
1 Thessalonians 1:1-10  
Matthew 22:15-22



### October 25

21st Sunday after Pentecost  
Deuteronomy 34:1-12  
Psalm 90:1-6, 13-17  
Thessalonians 2:1-8  
Matthew 22:34-46

### November 1

22nd Sunday after Pentecost  
All Saints' Day  
Revelation 7:9-17  
Psalm 34:1-10, 22  
1 John 3:1-3  
Matthew 5:1-12

Cornerstone's **vision** is to be a space open to all persons to experience God's grace and love, and to share that love with others, through acceptance, service, and witness, as followers of Jesus Christ.

Cornerstone's **mission** is to embrace and nurture everyone we meet as we build together the body of Christ and express God's love by our witness in the world.



## What's Happening at the Corner?

**C**ornerstone is on the move! I have been here now for 15 months and we are off to great things. Last June, the Annual Conference offered an opportunity to grow and sustain their ministry through the Ministry Incubator initiative. Cornerstone expressed interest and we have been selected to participate. The New York Annual Conference is working to become an incubator for creative, sustainable new ministries, particularly in partnership with young people.

The selected cohorts are comprised of emerging ministry leaders in the Conference that feel noticed, trained and empowered to innovate impactful ministry in their respective communities.

About midway through, a Hatchathon will be hosted where leaders are provided intense training and an energizing accelerator for each initiative. All of the cohorts will come together for maximum momentum and impact. Innovation will begin to be kneaded into the core identity of the Conference, as evidenced in its way of doing ministry with emerging ministry leaders, ideally youth. The Conference is making a commitment to “new frontier” ministries with emerging leaders.

Cornerstone will “pitch” its initiative in the coming weeks, planning for the first week in October. What are we doing, you ask? We are going to charter three new Troops for BSA (formerly Boy Scouts of America). Wait. That’s not innovative! Well, sure it is. The troops will be based in South Norwalk focusing on youth of color. The model will be different and based on the Rites of Passage for Young Men and Women that I have previously developed. BSA Executives are working with us to weave both Rites of Passage and Scouting throughout the programming. We think it will work. Both have made huge impacts in young people and we think it is a perfect fit.

Why three Troops? For maximum outreach. One troop for Cub Scouts (ages 5-10), One troop for BSA - Females (ages 10-17), and BSA - Males (ages 10-17). If you want to know how you can get involved, then be on the lookout for our “pitch” coming soon in a link to you. We need all your help and support and participation. This will be the perfect way for the church community to maximize what we have been doing well for the last 90 years in a new fresh way.

Sincerely,  
*Rev. Elizabeth C. Abel*

## Other News from the Pastor



**Calling all Leaders, Members and Friends.** It’s time to plan for 2021. Pastor Liz will be hosting a **Church Retreat** on December 5th to review and evaluate the SMART Goals for 2020 and revise and build new goals for 2021. Then in January on the 16th, we will host our annual **Leadership Training** for all incoming and current ministry area leaders. Both events will be held at 10 a.m. and be completed at 12 noon. Looking forward to seeing you there.

# MEMORIES!

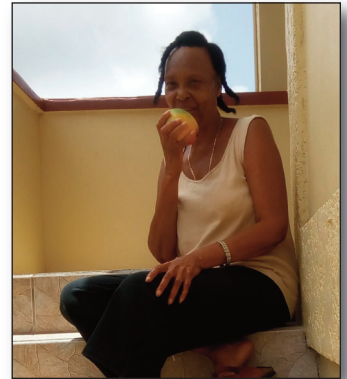


Fondly remembered:  
Jackie Lubell works the  
rummage sale!



Carol Solheim's  
1-year-old grandson,  
Ramzi

Marilyn Willet explains, "It is said the way to eat mangoes is to put a bucket of mangoes behind your back and keep eating until it's empty. Will settle for one instead of the bucket."



Below, the Norwalk Police Department gives Lillian Webb a ride-by for her 100th birthday. Happy birthday Lillian!



Marilyn Willet harvests  
one of her home-grown  
avocados.

## A Tribute to Children and Youth Going Back to School

In her newsletter of September 8, Susan Henry-Crowe quoted this passage by Maya Angelou from her poem, "A Pledge to Rescue Our Youth," for all the children and youth returning to school this month:

Young women, young men of color, we add our voices to the voices of your ancestors who speak to you over ancient seas and across impossible mountain tops.

Come up from the gloom of national neglect, you have already been paid for.

Come out of the shadow of irrational prejudice, you owe no racial debt to history.

The blood of our bodies and the prayers of our souls have bought you a future free from shame and bright beyond the telling of it.

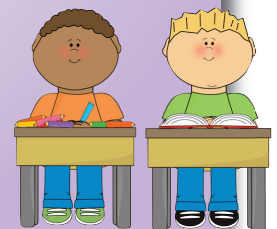
We pledge ourselves and our resources to seek for you clean and well-furnished schools, safe and non-threatening streets, employment which makes use of your talents, but does not degrade your dignity.

You are the best we have.

You are all we have.

You are what we have become.

We pledge you our whole hearts from this day forward.



## FOOD MINISTRIES

### Community Thanksgiving Luncheon 2020 “GRAB 'N GO” Lunch!!

*Yes, Charlie Brown, on Sunday November 22, 2020 we WILL celebrate yet another Community Thanksgiving Luncheon!! And while it will look a little different this year, we will have a fabulous and tasty turkey meal, all the fixings, dessert, and of course lots of love in each “Grab n Go” bag!*



**Please contact Pat Bobwich or Pam @ the church office 203-866-3707 if you wish to help!**

All cooking will be done in a COVID-19 restaurant kitchen, and able to be reheated in your own home!

The Community Thanksgiving Luncheon is a critical part of the food ministry at Cornerstone. And while we normally serve 300+, this year we boldly stepped it up to 600 meals as we celebrate its 21st year! The need is great, and we didn't want to let anyone down. Thanks to our spirited Norwalk community supporters and YOU, it will happen!

To achieve our goal, we are asking for your continued support. A letter is in the mail with details on how you can help us financially. Every little bit helps! We also have many volunteering opportunities, such as driving to deliver bags to our own church folks unable to pick up in person.

This year, our “Grab n Go” lunch will be dedicated to our own sweet Susan Maddox, a guiding light and dedicated volunteer for CTL over the past many years. Her spirit will be with us as we make this the best year yet!

***CTL will be a special treat toward feeding our community and bringing cheer in what's been a difficult year!***

# 30 *days* of ANTI-RACISM



The United Methodist Church and the General Commission on Religion and Race invite all United Methodists and friends to take part in 30 DAYS OF ANTI-RACISM. They introduced the project for the month of September, but it can be carried out at any time. Below is a calendar with a suggested activity for each day of the month. Many have links to other materials. All are interesting and rewarding.

Here is their explanation of how the project came about:

“Campus minister Morgan Stafford has committed himself to live an anti-racist faith and life. “As a white man, I have learned that I’ve benefitted from racism, while people of color have been harmed. I believe that white Christians must take the lead to confront and dismantle racism. It’s our job.”

To focus and make tangible his beliefs, Morgan spent the month of June doing at least one thing every day to listen to, learn from, do, and become more anti-racist, reporting his progress via social media. We at GCORR liked the idea and reached out to Morgan to share his story, what he accomplished, and how it’s changed and enhanced his spiritual growth and his work with young people.

As a result, GCORR invites white allies (and others) to spend one month doing #30DaysAntiRacism. Please post photos of your activities using #30DaysAntiRacism and encourage your friends, members of your congregation, Sunday school class, pastors, and community partners to join this 30 day project.” Let us all at Cornerstone, commit to following this guideline for the month of October, and let us support each other in our small groups to work at it together.

<b>SEPTEMBER 2020</b>		<b>1</b> Pray about how God is calling you to act.	<b>2</b> Draft your racial autobiography.	<b>3</b> Participate in intercultural conversations.	<b>4</b> Volunteer or donate in support of National Food Bank	<b>5</b> Support diverse leadership.
<b>6</b> Celebrate National Read-a-Book Day by purchasing an anti-racism resource.	<b>7</b> Pray about how you can speak up about injustice this week.	<b>8</b> Learn more about your local elections.	<b>9</b> Engage in the difficult conversation.	<b>10</b> Learn greetings and phrases in another language.	<b>11</b> Be willing to be in the minority.	<b>12</b> Support a local Black-owned business.
<b>13</b> Listen to a preacher from a different cultural background than your own.	<b>14</b> Plan to participate in an anti-racism demonstration.	<b>15</b> Commit to continued learning in celebration of National Online Learning Day.	<b>16</b> Engage in local community organizing.	<b>17</b> Recognize racism in your community.	<b>18</b> Find a mentor who is from a different cultural background than your own.	<b>19</b> Learn about Hispanic Heritage Month.
<b>20</b> Send your tithe or offering to a Black church.	<b>21</b> Engage with and invest in young leaders dedicated to anti-racism work.	<b>22</b> Celebrate National Voter Registration Day by registering to vote and helping another person to register.	<b>23</b> Encourage an activist.	<b>24</b> Support Black artists and musicians.	<b>25</b> Amplify the voices of People of Color by inviting them as speakers at worship and other events.	<b>26</b> Watch a documentary film or series about anti-racism.
<b>27</b> Pray about how God is calling you to be more anti-racist.	<b>28</b> Support non-profits engaged in the work of anti-racism.	<b>29</b> Examine your implicit biases.	<b>30</b> Commit to continuing the work of anti-racism in honor of National Love People Day.	  <b>RELIGION &amp; RACE</b> The United Methodist Church <a href="http://www.gcorr.org">www.gcorr.org</a>		
<b>#30DaysAntiRacism</b>						

## Enact Justice, Love Mercy, Walk Humbly By Nancy Kenworthy

What is human life without a commitment to Justice? What is our relationship with God without reverence for God’s creation of all life and all the cosmos? Why does the church exist, if not to work for justice among its members, in its community, and in all the world?

The Justice cell at Cornerstone is being expanded to coincide with the Commission on Church and Society of the United Methodist Church, of which it is a segment. On September 2, we met to discuss our goals and means. While our territory is all of society, we agreed that the issue we need to focus on first is racial injustice in our country.

We are looking at ways to dismantle racism by supporting local organizations both financially and with physical presence. Cornerstone Council has commissioned us to research and recommend organizations where we can be most effective.

We also are considering how we as a congregation can become better informed, how we can bring about change, and how we can connect with the community beyond our plot of land to accomplish shared goals.

The weekly letters that you have been receiving from the Justice team for Church and Society is a start in that direction. The United Methodist Church, both locally and nationally, has been producing excellent webinars, videos, books, and discussions on this topic. We will continue to keep you informed.



### United Methodist Anti-Racism Tee Shirts

Well, finally we’ve come out with some wearable statements. If you’re interested in an official UM tee shirt, go to the website linked to below.

<https://bit.ly/2FL5xsl>

## Be a Light

In a time full of war, be peace.  
 In a time full of doubt, just believe.  
 Yeah there’s [not] that much difference  
 Between you and me,  
 In a time full of war, be peace.

In a world full of hate, be a light.  
 When you do somebody wrong, make it right.  
 Don’t hide in the dark, you were born to shine.  
 In a world full of hate, be a light.

In a place that needs change, make a difference.  
 In a time full of noise, just listen.  
 Cause life is but a breeze, better live it.  
 In a place that needs change, make a difference.

In a race you can’t win, slow it down.  
 Yeah you only get one go-round.  
 Cause the finish line is six feet in the ground.  
 In a race you can’t win, slow it down.

Yeah it’s hard to live in color  
 When you just see black and white,  
 In a world full of hate, be a light.

by Thomas Rhett (country singer)  
 Watch the official video here:  
<https://bit.ly/2RYDZTz>

## Congratulations Eagle Scouts!

On Saturday, Troop 19 from the Cornerstone Community Church held an Eagle Scout Court of Honor at the America Legion Post 12. While we all had masks during the ceremony and stayed socially distant, it was nice to be able to congratulate these young men on their special accomplishment and recognize their hard work. Congratulations to Norwalk's newest Eagle Scouts—Eddie, Ryan, Nathaniel, Jonathan and Christian!



**Access the  
Upper Room  
Online!**

**YouTube:** <https://bit.ly/3iCgLyO>

**Listen By Phone (free during  
the pandemic):**

<https://bit.ly/2O3E1YD>

**Read the blog:**

<https://bit.ly/3fci5WU>

**Stay connected with your faith  
and with Cornerstone through:**

- [come2cornerstone.org](https://come2cornerstone.org)
- [facebook.com/come2cornerstone](https://facebook.com/come2cornerstone)
- **Twitter:** @come2ccc
- **Instagram:** come2cornerstone



## Hatching New Ministries

The September 9 newsletter from the NYAC Office of Connectional Ministries contained this item:

### “Cornerstone Community Church, Norwalk, CT - Liz Abel, Team Leader

Cornerstone, the product of four merged congregations, is a 250-member church with a weekly attendance of around 70. This new faith community is entering into a season of reimagining what its ministry to young people can look like, especially through an increase in outreach and recruitment and a diversification of the church’s leadership team.

Pastor Liz imagines exploring new paradigms of church, such as a gathering space that tends to the spiritual and general needs of the community, perhaps functioning like a pop-up or “messy” church that remains on the move and ready when and where it becomes needed. In addition, Pastor Liz is interested in identifying where Norwalk’s young people are developmentally, spiritually, and physically (where do they live? where do they hang out? etc.). She would like to test multiple ideas through a series of quick, experimental launches to identify key learnings about what best addresses young people in their neighborhood in a short period of time.

Current challenges include diversifying the leadership team, particularly in the realm of engaging more youth who identify as Latinx, and in developing leadership for church camp programs.”

We are raising our profile. We need to work together to live up to our reputation.

**Please pray for:** Betty Bavor, Amber Fogarty, Lynn Russo Whyly and for her brother Tommy, Suki John, Scott Trowbridge, Beverly Sweeney, Georgette Williams, Ed Sisson, Chris Radu and Chris’s mother Shirley Lewis, Dorel Radu’s Uncle George, Margaret and Patrick Doyle on loss of their daughter Karen – Arlene Trowbridge’s niece, Franklin and Evet Roberts, Betty Bardes’ great-grandson Brinley, Owen and Cheryl Mehle’s friend Charles Marcucci, Jean Strong’s friend Ann Petrini, Fred Anderson, Kon Swee Chen, Ludi Gabagat’s sister Corazon Capilitan, Jackie Dayton, Dora White, Lillian Webb, Lorie Kristof, Jim Wilson, family of Susan Maddox, family of Grete Nyrop



## 4 WAYS TO GIVE TO CORNERSTONE:

**By Mail:**  
**Cornerstone Community Church**  
**Attention: Gwen Hong**  
**718 West Avenue**  
**Norwalk, CT 06850**

**EFT (Electronic Funds Transfer):**  
**Download the form from the Friday blast**

**Venmo: Search for**  
**@Come2Cornerstone**

**Online: Add Cornerstone as a payee through your online banking**

Hello to all,

The NY-CT District Lay Servant Ministries Committee  
is offering another online Lay Servant Course!

**The Lay Servant Ministries Basic Course.**

This will take place via ZOOM on Sunday evenings from  
5pm-7pm, beginning October 4, 2020 and continuing each  
Sunday through November 1, 2020.

The committee is asking pastors to distribute the flyer in  
their church bulletin, and also asking that both clergy and  
laity extend a personal invitation to those in their church  
community to take the course.

**Fill out the registration form on page 11,  
or download it here: <https://bit.ly/3iDmJPr>**

Please contact Rev. Elizabeth Abel if you have any  
questions. She can be reached via email at  
[pastor@come2cornerstone.org](mailto:pastor@come2cornerstone.org)  
or by calling 914-886-5373.

Blessings,  
Karen Yostpille  
NY-CT District Administrative Assistant



*NY-CT Lay Servant Committee announces a new Lay Servant opportunity on Sunday afternoons. We are offering the Lay Servant Ministries Basic Course led by Rev. Elizabeth Abel via Zoom.*

The Basic Lay Servant Ministry Course offers an opportunity for you to explore, study, and open doors in your faith journey. Our Faith journey is always changing, NOW is the perfect opportunity to see where God is calling you. THIS COURSE WILL BE VIA COMPUTER - PARTICIPANTS MUST BE ABLE TO ACCESS: **ZOOM.US.**

Time: 5PM- 7PM Date: SUNDAYS Beginning Sunday 10/4, 10/11, 10/18, 10/25 & 11/1  
 Registration: \$5.00 payable to NY-CT Lay Speaking Ministries plus you must purchase your book.  
 Mail registrations to: Gary Gomes, 5 Nelson St, Goshen, NY 10924  
 Questions? Email Rev. Elizabeth Abel at [pastor@come2cornerstone.org](mailto:pastor@come2cornerstone.org) or call 914-886-5373

PLEASE PRINT LEGIBLY

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone # \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/Town: \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Church Membership: \_\_\_\_\_ District \_\_\_\_\_

Course Description: This course is foundational for all courses in Lay Servant Ministries. Participants are encouraged to discover and employ personal spiritual gifts as God intended and to consider the importance of exercising servant leadership, developing future leaders, remaining rooted in consistent spiritual practices, and being part of a group that holds members accountable in their discipleship.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Applicant Date

**IMPORTANT INFORMATION:**

- Book: *Lay Servant Ministries, Basic Course, Jackson & Jackson, \$11*
- Book may be purchased from Upper Room Bookstore [www.upperroom.org](http://www.upperroom.org) or 1-800-972-0433. Also available through Amazon, and Cokesbury. **You are responsible to order and purchase the participant book.**
- **Reading Chapter 1** prior to the first class will be most helpful.

## Grete Nyrop, September 9, 1929 - August 8, 2020



Grete Nyrop, 90, died at St. Vincent's Medical Center in Bridgeport, CT. She was born in Denmark. Her parents were Karen Locoppidan-Jensen and Frederik Jeppesen and her stepfather, Jens Jericho. Grete lived and was educated in Copenhagen and became a nurse, an early indicator of her lifelong devotion to the care of others. She married Per Nyrop, in June, 1954, and they immigrated to Baltimore, MD, in 1955. In 1959, Grete and Per moved to Norwalk, CT, where they resided for many years. Grete moved to Shelton, CT, following Per's death in 1988.

Grete was a wonderful mother and caregiver to young children. She devoted her time to her three children when they were young, and once they were older and in school, she spent many years caring for patients in a pediatric practice. Her care and compassion to others extended well beyond home and work and she was involved in scouting, PTA, and her church. She lived with her daughter, Nina, for many years and had the good fortune to be very involved in caring for, nurturing, and supporting her grandchildren.

Grete's church community was a very special and important part of her life. Her work with this community was a product of her core principals of caring for others, faith in the goodness of people, and love of God. Grete set a standard that others looked up to.

Grete traveled extensively with friends and visited many countries and continents. She was very adventurous, including driving across the country with her daughter, Karin, to Seattle, where Karin moved to attend college. For many years later in life, she traveled to Denmark to visit with her sister, Lisa, and many relatives. Lisa and Grete also traveled as part of Grete's visits to Denmark. Her lust for life was on display in the last couple of visits because, even though she had difficulty navigating airports, she nevertheless traveled alone, and insisted on doing so to see the people she loved.

Grete is survived by her son Jan, daughters Karin and Nina and their families, and sister Lisa of Denmark.

In recognition of Grete's lifetime of caring for others, contributions can be made to the Alzheimer's Association, in honor of her sister, Lisa.

A celebration of Grete's life will be arranged at a later date when travel and gatherings are safe.

## Susan M. Maddox November 24, 1941 - August 07, 2020



Susan Martha Maddox age 78, long-time Norwalk resident, passed on to her eternal rest at home on August 7, 2020 surrounded by her loving family.

Susan was one of two children born to Virgil and Charlotte Hoffman in St. Louis, MO. Widow of James Maddox.

Susan is survived by her brother David Hoffman of Rolla, MO, her daughter Cindy Little and her son Randy Day and their families and her lifelong friend Mary Boyd.

Graduated from Sacred Heart University with honors in financial accounting leading to a career working for multiple manufacturing companies. Long standing member of the Cornerstone Community Church in Norwalk, CT.

A memorial service was held on August 15, 2020, at the Norwalk Inn. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to the Cornerstone Community Church for Outreach Ministry, 718 West Avenue, Norwalk, CT 06850.

## On Voting in November

by Arlene Trowbridge

Allan and I received our application forms for absentee ballots September 8.

When you receive yours, you'll need to fill in your telephone number / email address (if available). Check off one of the boxes.

The first box is COVID-19 (all voters are able to check this box pursuant to Public Act 20-3 July Spec. Sess.) Sign the form and date it. Seal it in the provided envelope.

You may either drop it in the secured drop box in front of Town Hall or you can mail it; as the postage is already paid.

Absentee ballots will be sent out starting Oct. 2. I hope this information is helpful.



## IN MEMORY OF SUSAN MADDOX

In early August, Cornerstone Community Church planned to honor Susan with a lifetime of service award. Unfortunately, we were not able to present the award to Susan

directly. Instead, the award was presented to the family during the memorial service, at which time the family gifted it back to the church. The award now resides inside the Upper Room, which has been renamed "The Upper Room in Loving Memory of Susan Maddox."

## Stemming Food Insecurities in Norwalk by Christina Wyclif

Food insecurity has been a big problem around the world and in our community for a long time. Since the pandemic began, thousands of people have been laid off leaving them struggling to provide meals for their family. For the past few months Cornerstone CC has been providing "Blessing Boxes" for the community. These are 30-40 pound boxes of groceries enough to feed a family of 4 for about 2 weeks. Some of the organizations we work with are Open Door Shelter, Person-to-Person, NAACP, Norwalk Community Health Center, Family and Children's Agency, and many more. We are now distributing over 700 boxes to over 10 different agencies in Norwalk and surrounding towns. We are so grateful for the opportunity to continue to help our community out in any way we can and we would appreciate the support of our congregation!

### To Request a Blessing Box...

While the majority of boxes will be distributed to local agencies, for distribution to families in need, we don't want to ignore our own immediate church family and any needs we may have. Each box contains 30 to 40 lbs. of food.

**Please contact the church office to order your box for pick-up. Call 203-866-3707 or email [office@come2cornerstone.org](mailto:office@come2cornerstone.org).**

Further details on pick-up date and location will follow, once you order the box.

The expenses for this program are shared by several community organizations. Donations are gratefully accepted. You may write a check to the Cornerstone Community Church and show "Blessing Boxes" on the memo line or donate through Venmo using @Come2Cornerstone.





**When you support World Communion Sunday, your gift invests in educational opportunities for United Methodist leaders.**

**“Through education, I have been able to grow as a leader, theologian and, overall, disciple. Through the World Communion Sunday scholarship, I feel the unconditional support from people I have never met. It had taught me what generosity can do in and for the body of Christ.”**

– DAVID RANGEL, WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY SCHOLAR

**“As a nurse, I want the little things I do for a patient to make a difference and change their lives. I want to be able to influence people I come in contact with to eat healthier and be healthier. I will also use my nursing skills and knowledge to inform my church community on how take care of themselves on a daily basis”**

– MAKALAH CANNON, ETHNIC SCHOLAR

**“My doctoral degree in gender studies will open up new avenues and allow me to be involved in academic debates, discussions and deliberations, as well as activism, to promote and protect the rights of women and religious minorities in Pakistan.”**

– AYRA INDRIAS PATRAS, WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY SCHOLAR



Open Hearts. Open Minds. Open Doors.

**The people of The United Methodist Church®**



**Quando usted apoya el Domingo de Comunión Mundial, su donación invierte en oportunidades educativas para los líderes metodistas unidos.**

**«A través de la educación, he podido crecer como líder, teólogo y, sobre todo, discípulo. A través de la beca del Domingo de Comunión Mundial, siento el apoyo incondicional de personas que nunca he conocido. Me ha enseñado lo que la generosidad puede hacer en y por el cuerpo de Cristo».**

– DAVID RANGEL, ACADÉMICO DEL DOMINGO DE COMUNIÓN MUNDIAL

**«Como enfermera, quiero que las cosas pequeñas que hago por un paciente marquen la diferencia y cambien sus vidas. Quiero ser capaz de influenciar a la gente con la que estoy en contacto para que coman más sano y sean más saludables. También usaré mis habilidades y conocimientos de enfermería para informar a mi comunidad eclesial sobre cómo cuidarse a diario».**

– MAKALAH CANNON, ACADÉMICA DE LA BECA ÉTNICA

**«Mi doctorado en estudios de género abrirá nuevas vías y me permitirá participar en debates, discusiones y deliberaciones académicas, así como en el activismo, para promover y proteger los derechos de las mujeres y las minorías religiosas en el Pakistán».**

– AYRA INDRIAS PATRAS, ERUDITA DEL DOMINGO DE COMUNIÓN MUNDIAL



Nuestros corazones,  
nuestras mentes y nuestras puertas están siempre abiertas

La gente de la Iglesia Metodista Unida

# Hispanic Heritage Month

**Hispanic Heritage Month is celebrated September 15 to October 15.**

Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Chile, and Belize all celebrate their independence days in September.

In the United Methodist Church, the Hispanic caucus is MARCHA, Methodists Associated with the Cause of Hispanic/Latino Americans.

The new President of the United Methodist Council of Bishops is Bishop Cynthia Fierro-Harvey.

In an interview with Barbara Dunlap-Berg for United Methodist Communications in 2013, Bishop Fierro-Harvey gave this condensed statement about her background:

I was born on May 5, 1959, in Big Spring, Texas. I was raised in a typical Hispanic neighborhood surrounded by family. My grandparents lived across the street, and my great-aunt and uncle lived next door. I have no memory of ever being with a babysitter but always with family. Being in community is a cornerstone of who I am.

I grew up on what some called “the wrong side of the tracks.” My parents’ home was a very modest home built by my father and grandfather. I remember two bedrooms, one bathroom and five people. It was also the house with the Virgin Mary in the front yard!

I am married to Dean Alan Harvey, and our daughter, Elizabeth Grace Harvey, is 22. I was raised in a Roman Catholic household. I am the first non-Catholic in my family. It was not until I went to college that I began attending a United Methodist church—first, Dunwoody United Methodist Church in Georgia, then Foundry United Methodist Church in Houston, which was the church from which I entered ministry. Foundry was the place where I discerned my call.

Throughout my high school years, I was active in student government, was a cheerleader and very involved in school activities.

I attended The University of Texas at Austin, graduating in 1980 with a degree in journalism.

I had a full career in corporate marketing prior to entering full-time ministry. I used to pride myself in having been a layperson longer than (I was) clergy, but (that is no longer the case).

My parents both had eighth-grade educations but were the smartest people I have ever known.





# Mes De La Herencia Hispana

**El Mes de la Herencia Hispana se celebra del 15 de septiembre al 15 de octubre.**

MARCHA, Metodistas Asociadas con la Causa de los Hispanos / Latinoamericanos, celebra y felicita a la Obispa Cynthia Fierro-Harvey por su elección y reciente instalación como presidenta del Concilio de Obispos de la Iglesia Metodista Unida.

En 2013, United Methodist News Service invitó a varias mujeres, tanto laicas como clérigos, de la Iglesia Metodista Unida a compartir sus historias. Aquí está la respuesta de la obispo Cynthia Fierro Harvey:

Por Barbara Dunlap-Berg

Nací el 5 de mayo de 1959 en Big Spring, Texas. Me crié en un barrio típico hispano rodeado de familia. Mis abuelos vivían al otro lado de la calle y mi tía abuela y mi tío vivían al lado. No recuerdo haber estado nunca con una niñera, pero siempre con mi familia. Estar en comunidad es una piedra angular de lo que soy.

Crecí en lo que algunos llamaron "el lado equivocado de las vías". La casa de mis padres era una casa muy modesta construida por mi padre y mi abuelo. Recuerdo dos dormitorios, un baño y cinco personas. ¡También era la casa con la Virgen María en el patio delantero!

Estoy casada con Dean Alan Harvey y nuestra hija, Elizabeth Grace Harvey, tiene 22 años.

Me crié en un hogar católico romano. Soy el primer no católico de mi familia. No fue hasta que fui a la universidad que comencé a asistir a una iglesia metodista unida, primero a la Iglesia Metodista Unida Dunwoody en Georgia, luego a la Iglesia Metodista Unida Foundry en Houston, que fue la iglesia desde la que entré al ministerio. Foundry fue el lugar donde discerní mi llamado.

A lo largo de mis años de escuela secundaria, participé activamente en el gobierno estudiantil, fui animadora y muy involucrada en las actividades escolares.

Asistí a la Universidad de Texas en Austin y me gradué en 1980 con un título en periodismo.

Tenía una carrera completa en mercadeo corporativo antes de ingresar al ministerio de tiempo completo. Solía enorgullecerme de haber sido un laico por más tiempo que (yo era) el clero, pero (ese ya no es el caso).

Mis padres tenían estudios de octavo grado, pero eran las personas más inteligentes que he conocido.

<https://www.umnews.org/en/news/women-making-history-cynthia-fierro-harvey>

## “Christian Principles in an Election Year” Offer Criteria for Judging Candidates

The National Council of Churches USA has released 10 principles for evaluating candidates that it hopes all Christians—from liberals to conservatives—will study and apply in this election year.

These points align closely with the United Methodist Social Principles.

Our Christian faith compels us to address the world through the lens of our relationship to God and to one another. Public discourse is enhanced as we engage civic leaders on the values and ethics affirmed by our faith. At the same time, religious liberty and the integrity of our democracy will be protected as candidates refrain from using faith-based organizations and institutions for partisan gain. We offer these ten principles to those seeking to accept the responsibility that comes with holding public office.

**1. War is contrary to the will of God.** While the use of violent force may, at times, be a necessity of last resort, Christ pronounces his blessing on the peace-makers. We look for political leaders who will make peace with justice a top priority and who will actively seek nonviolent solutions to conflict.

**2. God calls us to live in communities shaped by peace and cooperation.** We reject policies that abandon large segments of our inner city and rural populations to hopelessness. We look for political leaders who will rebuild our communities and bring an end to the cycles of violence and killing.

**3. God created us for each other, and thus our security depends on the well-being of our global neighbors.** We look for political leaders for whom a foreign policy based on cooperation and global justice is an urgent concern.

**4. God calls us to be advocates for those who are most vulnerable in our society.** We look for political leaders who yearn for economic justice

and who will seek to reduce the growing disparity between rich and poor.

**5. Each human being is created in the image of God and is of infinite worth.** We look for political leaders who actively promote racial justice and equal opportunity for everyone.

**6. The earth belongs to God and is intrinsically good.** We look for political leaders who recognize the earth's goodness, champion environmental justice, and uphold our responsibility to be stewards of God's creation.



**7. Christians have a biblical mandate to welcome strangers.** We look for political leaders who will pursue fair immigration policies and speak out against xenophobia.

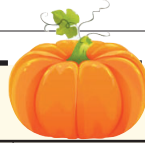
**8. Those who follow Christ are called to heal the sick.** We look for political leaders who will support adequate, affordable and accessible health care for all.

**9. Because of the transforming power of God's grace, all humans are called to be in right relationship with each other.** We look for political leaders who seek a restorative, not retributive, approach to the criminal justice system and the individuals within it.

**10. Providing enriched learning environments for all of God's children is a moral imperative.** We look for political leaders who will advocate for equal educational opportunity and abundant funding for children's services.

Finally, our religious tradition admonishes us not to bear false witness against our neighbor and to love our enemies. We ask that the campaigns of political candidates and the coverage of the media in this election season be conducted according to principles of fairness, honesty and integrity.

<http://www.nccusa.org/news/04christianprinciplesstory.html>



# OCTOBER 2020

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<b>27 SEPTEMBER</b> 10:00a Cornerstone Bilingual Worship on Zoom 1:00p Corporate Prayer	<b>28</b> 1:00p Corporate Prayer	<b>29</b> 1:00p Corporate Prayer	<b>30</b> 1:00p Corporate Prayer 6:00p Bible study on Zoom 7:00p 1 Book 1 Community, Norwalk Main Library	<b>1 OCTOBER</b> 1:00p Corporate Prayer	<b>2</b> 1:00p Corporate Prayer  Birthdays: Jessie McGarty Joyce Hill	<b>3</b> 12:00p Disciple Bible Study on Zoom 1:00p Corporate Prayer
<b>4</b> 10:00a Cornerstone Bilingual Worship on Zoom w/at-home communion 1:00p Corporate Prayer	<b>5</b> 1:00p Corporate Prayer 7:00p Trustees Mtg.	<b>6</b> 1:00p Corporate Prayer 7:00p Church Council Mtg. on Zoom	<b>7</b> 1:00p Corporate Prayer 6:00p Bible study on Zoom	<b>8</b> 1:00p Corporate Prayer  Birthday: Leonor Chute	<b>9</b> 1:00p Corporate Prayer	<b>10</b> 12:00p Disciple Bible Study on Zoom 1:00p Corporate Prayer
<b>11</b> 10:00a Cornerstone Bilingual Worship on Zoom 1:00p Corporate Prayer	<b>12</b> 1:00p Corporate Prayer	<b>13</b> 1:00p Corporate Prayer 7:00p Finance Committee Mtg. on Zoom  Birthday: Ryan Duff	<b>14</b> 1:00p Corporate Prayer 6:00p Bible study on Zoom 7:30p Church and Society Mtg.	<b>15</b> 1:00p Corporate Prayer	<b>16</b> 1:00p Corporate Prayer	<b>17</b> 12:00p Disciple Bible Study on Zoom 1:00p Corporate Prayer
<b>18</b> 10:00a Cornerstone Bilingual Worship on Zoom 1:00p Corporate Prayer  <b>LAITY SUNDAY</b>  Birthday: Joy Richards-Grant	<b>19</b> 1:00p Corporate Prayer  Birthdays: Jackie Dayton Allan Carpenter Arlene Trowbridge	<b>20</b> 1:00p Corporate Prayer 7:00p CTL Mtg.	<b>21</b> 1:00p Corporate Prayer 6:00p Bible study on Zoom	<b>22</b> 1:00p Corporate Prayer	<b>23</b> 1:00p Corporate Prayer  Birthdays: Brad Ritch Ed Sisson	<b>24</b> 12:00p Disciple Bible Study on Zoom 1:00p Corporate Prayer 1:00-5:00p NY Annual Conf.-Virtual  Birthdays: Evet Roberts
<b>25</b> 10:00a Cornerstone Bilingual Worship on Zoom 1:00p Corporate Prayer	<b>26</b> 1:00p Corporate Prayer 7:00p Church Council Mtg.	<b>27</b> 1:00p Corporate Prayer 7:00p Nominations and Leadership Development Mtg.	<b>28</b> 1:00p Corporate Prayer 6:00p Bible study on Zoom  Birthdays: Perry Joseph	<b>29</b> 1:00p Corporate Prayer	<b>30</b> 1:00p Corporate Prayer	<b>31</b> 12:00p Disciple Bible Study on Zoom 1:00p Corporate Prayer



718 West Ave.  
Norwalk, CT 06850

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## Cornerstone Early Learning Center Is BACK!!

**After more than 5 months of being closed, CELC reopened on August 24th!**

The smiles were grand, and the excitement was big! Staff and families are all adjusting to our new “norm” very nicely and hope to regain some of the consistency that our center provided before the start of the Pandemic.

### **WE NEED YOUR HELP!**

As we all know, cleaning supplies are in short supply and it has been exceedingly difficult for the center to get disinfecting aerosol sprays. We ask that if you come across disinfecting sprays (Lysol etc.) please think about buying and donating to the Center.

**Your generosity will be GREATLY APPRECIATED!**

