

# New Covenant UMC Newsletter

February 2022

## Message from Pastor Althea V Jackson

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Dear family and friends,



This is the month where we celebrate the rich history of the African American in this nation. We know the names: Rosa Parks, Martin Luther King, Malcolm X, Fannie Lou hammer, and Barack Obama. But I want us to think about those unnamed heroes and she-roes. Those who made the trip to Washington for the historic March on Washington, the test guy airmen. Shall we give recognition to those who excelled in fields where they were not expected to have the capacity to comprehend the intricacies of their crafts. We remember the teachers. We remember the scientists who made contributions to this day. our lives are easier. How about those mothers who put their faith in God and sent their children by bus into neighborhoods where they were not welcome? Can we consider those who sat in the back of the classroom at the educational institutions not

only excelled in academics but going above and beyond to prove African Americans can achieve, innovate, and enhance the lives of all people.

Today I celebrate the preachers who encouraged their congregations to reach for the highest and the best in Christ Jesus despite being told people of color would never be able to equal the accomplishments of their European American compatriots. Today I celebrate the parents who sacrificed to make sure the children had better than what they did. Today I celebrate those ancestors who were not given a chance to read because it was considered a criminal offense to teach African Americans to read. Yet they dared to learn to read. They made sure that their children and grandchildren enjoyed the basic advantages that come from literacy.

As we go on beyond Black History Month there are still challenges before us as a nation. We still must learn to appreciate and celebrate our differences rather than fear them. We must learn to honor our differences because the God we serve has made us unique and full of wonder. We have yet to see the possibilities and the potential and the children that will achieve great things because we believe in them.

So for this Black History Month I not only celebrate the unspoken heroes as well as the ones that are well known but I also celebrate our children who will be the heroes for tomorrow. Let us continue to pray for them as we pray for ourselves to be the examples the children deserve.

Blessings,

*Pastor Althea*

### Trustees Needed

There are currently 4 positions open on the Board of Trustees.

The Board of Trustees is responsible for the upkeep of the buildings and grounds of the church as a resource for ministry.

If you are interested in serving on the Board of Trustees, please contact Pastor Althea.





## **Bishop appoints Seacoast District Superintendent**

Bishop Sudarshana Devadhar has named the Rev. Wanda Santos-Perez, who is serving Faith UMC in Chicopee, MA, as Superintendent of the Seacoast District, effective July 1, 2022. Rev. Santos-Perez follows the Rev. Dr. David Calhoun, who will complete eight years on the Cabinet on June 30.

### **Winter Storms? Covid-19 Worries?**

The life and ministry of New Covenant continues even when we cannot gather together for worship. Your continuing generosity during these times is especially important! Please remember to mail or drop off your tithes and offerings to the church during the week, or to give electronically by using the yellow "donate" button on the Church's website ([www.newcovenant-umc.org](http://www.newcovenant-umc.org)). We truly appreciate your faithfulness!

Thank you,

The NCUMC Finance Team

### **East Hartford Shelter Need**

The shelter is in need of women's sanitary supplies. If you can help, please bring supplies to the church and place in box located next to sanctuary doors, Thank you for your support.

**March Newsletter Deadline February 25, 2022**

**Send articles to Deb Glassey at [glassey50@comcast.net](mailto:glassey50@comcast.net)**



## Covid-19 Testing

### In-Person Testing

**Wednesday from 10 AM - 2 PM** at St. Isaac Jogues Church, located at 1 Community Street, through the months of January and February. These events are walk-up only, no appointment is required. Testing will be offered to all on a first come, first served basis and supplies are limited. There will be no out-of-pocket expenses for individuals.

### Free at-Home COVID-19 tests

- Go online to request your free test kits from the federal government <https://www.covidtests.gov/>
- East Hartford Residents who have been exposed to Covid-19 or have symptoms can call the Health Department at 860-291-7324 to reserve a test kit and request a curbside pickup at the Town Hall. There is a limit of one test kit per household.

### When to test (CDC Recommendations)

When you have symptoms or 5 days after exposure . Also, consider using a self-test before joining indoor gatherings with others who are not in your household.

### If You Test Positive

Go to the CDC website <https://www.cdc.gov/> or contact your doctor regarding quarantine and isolation

### If symptoms worsen

Contact your physician

### Symptoms

*Most common symptoms include:* Fever Dry cough Tiredness

*Less common symptoms:* Aches and pains Sore throat Diarrhea Conjunctivitis Headache Loss of taste or smell a rash on skin, or discoloration of fingers or toes

## **Covid-19 Policy Update**

from Church Council

New Covenant's Covid-19 policy is based on CDC recommendations.

- Masks are to be worn at all times in the building when 2 or more people are in the same room/area.
- Social distancing is required at all times in the building. In the sanctuary this means people not in the same
- household should be sitting every other pew and 6 feet apart in the same pew. In the other rooms, sit 6 feet apart.
- No food or drink in the building when 2 or more people are in the
- same room/area (so no coffee hours/social events after church downstairs, food in meetings, etc)
- All public spaces to be cleaned after worship, including bathrooms and door handles.
- Please do not attend worship or other meetings in person if you have tested Positive for Covid-19, or have symptoms of Covid-19, cold, or Flu.

