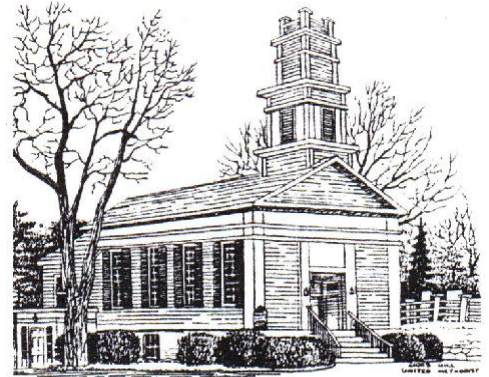


Zion's Hill United Methodist Church
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The Rev. Lori Miller, Pastor
Website: www.zionhillmethodist.org



THE CANON

OCTOBER, 2008

FROM YOUR PASTOR

This Canon will come to most of you electronically.

When we first made the decision to move to an electronic format last winter we thought it should be a pretty easy thing: just get an email list, make sure the Canon is produced in a program that will transmit and send it out.

Ha.

Like peeling off layers of an onion, solving one issue just led to another. Did we know who could receive an electronic Canon (because they had a computer)? Did we have correct email addresses for people? Could we find a program that would allow us to reproduce the Canon as it currently looks? What about people who couldn't open that program? Would it be easier to just post the newsletter on the website? But then what about privacy issues if information about parishioners would be available to anyone? And why was Word just not cooperating??

Because of the efforts of several individuals, however, we now have an electronic Canon—a means of communication that we hope will allow us to share events and ideas about our ministry in a format that's most likely to be read and least likely to waste resources.

I would like to offer thanks to *Bill Glass* who got us thinking about this and acting on it; to *Don McKinnon*, who shepherded us through most of the process; to *Alan Kittel*, who found a workable way to produce and transmit the newsletter and to our secretary *Helen Lamp* who was responsible for getting it published. All of these individuals spent more time than they should have working out the bugs of the transition.

Let us know what you think. Was this Canon readable? Did you actually read it? Are there other things you'd like to see included in the church newsletter that aren't currently, i.e. news from the larger United Methodist Church?

And remember that past issues of the Canon will be available on our church website, URL listed above.

Blessings,
Lori

In This Issue

Food Drive	2
Refugee Family	3
Gospel/Jazz	
Concert	3
Election Year	4
Laity Sunday	4
Prayer Chain	5
Music Notes	5
Sunday School	5
Youth News	6
Domestic	
Violence	6
On The Hill	7
Birthdays/ Anniversaries	7



EMERGENCY FOOD DRIVE

Wilton Social Services has specifically requested that we hold another food drive for them this fall. Evidently, the shelves of their food pantry are unusually bare for September, perhaps evidence of the economic woes around us.

The items most needed are listed below. They can be brought to church any Sunday or left in the church office Tuesday to Friday, **8:30 AM to 1:30 PM**. The drive will run through October 26, though we will bring food down to social services as it accumulates.

I (LRM) think it is a positive thing that social services was comfortable asking us directly for help—and knew that we would help. Thanks to *Dawn Malkin* for bringing the request to us.

Fall Food Drive

Cereal (try for a variety)
Laundry Detergent
Dishwashing Detergent
Pasta Sauce
Pasta
Soups (hearty/chunky); Dinty Moore Stew
Jam/Jelly (no grape)
Fruit Juice (bottles)
Coffee (regular or decaf; instant or ground)
Tea
Toothpaste/
Toothpaste/Tooth brushes
Deodorant
Bath Soap
Shampoo & Conditioner
Salad Dressing
Mayo
Ketchup/Mustard (small sizes)
Peanut Butter (small)
Tuna
Canned Fruit
Paper Goods (toilet paper, towel paper, tissues, napkins)

- PLEASE -

**NO CANNED TOMATOES OR TOMATO PASTE!
NO CANNED VEGETABLES, BEANS, OR SALMON!**

UPDATE ON REFUGEE FAMILY “ADOPTED” BY WILTON

The Saadis, the Iraqi family that will settle in Wilton was due to arrive September 25. Unfortunately, they were not able to leave Istanbul because the necessary paper work was not in order. Our hope is that they will be arriving in the not-too-distant future. Please keep the Saadis in prayer, that their path to a new life here can be expedited.

Over the summer, the housing and furnishings committee worked very hard to procure and prepare the three bedroom apartment located on Portland Avenue in Georgetown. Pauline Tukes and Pastor Lori have visited there and will attest to how good it looks. Other volunteers began to organize drivers to provide transportation and to interface with the Wilton public schools. (Two of the family's three children will still be in school.) Another committee is planning an arrival celebration complete with a “native” Iraqi meal, while other people are arranging pro bono medical care.

The Saadis are Chaldean Christians, a denomination connected historically to the Roman Catholic Church. They speak Arabic, though Mrs. Saddi and one of the daughters also know some English. Both parents worked in Iraq and will be seeking employment in an appropriate field in the United States.

The Refugee Resettlement Committee appreciates all the work that Wilton volunteers have done since the winter to make the Saadis settling here possible. Several Zion's Hill members donated furnishings for the house, and we will contribute funds from our Christmas offering towards the one-year covenant of support for the family. In addition read on for information on a benefit concert this fall at the Wilton Presbyterian Church:



GOSPEL AND JAZZ CONCERT:

**“A CELEBRATION OF INTERFAITH UNITY AND DIVERSITY”
AND A
BENEFIT FOR THE REFUGEE RESETTLEMENT PROJECT**

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 19, 2008

4:00 PM

**WILTON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
48 New Canaan Road Wilton**

Pete Malinverni will direct a Gospel choir and Jazz Ensemble performing works based on the psalms of David. The group has performed widely within the African American community. The tickets are \$10 in advance and \$15 at the door. A reception will follow the concert.

For tickets or more information, please contact Pastor Lori or call 203-438-7795



IT'S AN ELECTION YEAR....

....and religious views seem to be a big part of it, both through the faith stances of all four nominees and through the response of the electorate: we hear about “the Catholic vote” or the “Evangelical vote.”

Christians are found all over the political spectrum, and it is not the job of a pastor or church to tell people how to vote. However, are there issues that we should be aware of as Christians when we go into the voting booth? Does our faith impact how we vote and how we feel about certain issues? As the press makes clear, people’s views on abortion, the death penalty or help for the poor are often impacted by their religious beliefs, but does our faith say anything about other issues, like the environment or the economy in general?

To get us to think about the election from a faith perspective and not just a political one, the message on **Sunday, October 19** is going to depart from the lectionary and instead take up some of the issues of the day. As mentioned above, it is not your pastor’s intent to endorse one candidate or party over the other from the pulpit, but to provide a forum in which we can all think, or continue to think, about the connection of the Gospel to the world.

However, since it is impossible for your pastor to keep all of her own views out of such subjects—some highly charged—worship will be followed by a “talk back” session, where we can have a little real dialogue about the issues. Depending on the number of people interested, we’ll meet in fellowship hall or go over to the CEB.



LAITY SUNDAY

Traditionally, the third Sunday of October is celebrated in United Methodist congregations as Laity Sunday. Often lay people preach and lead worship, but the real point of the day is to highlight the ministry that lay people do in real life.

Zion’s Hill UMC will celebrate Laity Sunday this year on October 26. Three of our members will speak about ministries they are involved in. *Jonathan and Karen Prescott* have participated in the Appalachian Service Project (ASP) for a number of years. ASP is a non-dominational Christian service program that takes teams of adults and youth to rural communities to minister through building and repairing homes. *Priscilla Lightcap*, DVM, has participated in animal rescue work and most recently, has been involved in a program that uses prison inmates to help train guide dogs. Worship that day will be led by *Holly Gorenbergh*), one of our lay speakers



PRAYER CHAIN REMINDER

As of this fall, the prayer chain extends to all members of Zion's Hill church. To initiate a prayer request, please contact Pastor Lori. She will contact *Jannice Williams*, who will then send out an email request for prayer to all members with email and initiate a phone chain among those who don't.

Please remember that if you are requesting prayer on behalf of another person, confirm with them that they are comfortable being placed on our chain.

Prayer is a powerful thing. Thank you for participating in this important ministry to people who are in need.



MUSIC NOTES—OCTOBER, 2008

Welcome back to all our singers. Choirs, both Junior and Senior started up on September 14. I hope anyone who would like to sing with us will please join our rehearsals on Sunday.

I am in the process of making plans for the year and have a few ideas about special music programs. Please let me know if you would like something new added in this year. I start Advent and Christmas planning early.

Susan Isherwood, Music Director



SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS—OCTOBER, 2008

Sunday school is now in full swing and so far students and teachers seem to be enjoying our new curriculum. During the month of October we will continue to explore the stories of the Old Testament. We will also start at the end of the month/early November exploring the celebration of Communion with all our students. A special two week program, during Sunday School hours, and activities will be prepared for our children so that they may better understand Communion. More information will follow. There will be no Sunday School on October 12th due to the Columbus Day Holiday.

Thank you.

Colleen Adams, Sunday School Superintendent



YOUTH NEWS—OCTOBER, 2008

Wednesday, October 1

7th and 8th Grade Youth Group Meets 6pm to 7:30pm

Sunday, October 5

9th Grade Koinonia Group and 10th-12th Grade Katalysta Groups Meet 4:30pm to 6:00pm

Thursday, October 9

Sixers 6th Grade Youth Group Meets 5:00pm to 6:30pm

Wednesday, October 15

7th and 8th Grade Youth Group Meets 6pm to 7:30pm

Sunday, October 19

High School Faith In Action Group Meets 4:30pm to 6:00pm

Friday, October 31—Sunday, November 2

High School Retreat at Heifer Project's Overlook Farm in Massachusetts

Zion's Hill is a partner in the Joint Youth Ministries Program, a cooperative venture with Wilton Presbyterian and St. Matthew's Episcopal Churches. Unless otherwise noted, youth groups meet at the WEPCO complex, 48 New Canaan Road. Please contact Youth Minister, Jane Field, [janefield@snet.net](mailto:jane@janefield.net) or 762-5514 if you have any questions or concerns. If your family includes a 6th-12th grader and you have not been receiving our regular email reminders or "snail-mail" postcards, please let Jane know and we'll add you to the list right away

BENEFIT FOR DOMESTIC VIOLENCE CRISIS CENTER

On Thursday, October 23 from 6 to 8 PM, the Open House Gift Shop will sponsor an evening of shopping to benefit the Domestic Violence Crisis Center. This after-hours event is held in honor of National Domestic Violence Awareness Month in October.

10% of sales that night will be donated to the DVCC and shoppers can purchase tickets for a special drawing to win beautiful prizes donated by Open House.

Refreshments will be served. More information about DVCC and the Task Force will be available during the event.

We look forward to seeing you at Open House, 9 Center Street, Wilton.

24-hour confidential DV Hotline: 1-888-774-2900



ON THE HILL

It is with great joy that we announce the ordination of Shannon Wall to the ministry of the United Church of Christ. Shannon currently serves as associate pastor at the First Congregational Church in Darien. Shannon was a former member of Zion's Hill for many years.

Congratulations to Tiffany & Jon Lenz on the birth of their daughter Abigail Virginia on September 4th. Abby weighed in at 8 Lbs 9 oz and joins her brother A.J. in the Lenz household

Congratulations to Erin Malkin on her marriage to Justin Theodor on Saturday, September 6th at Zion's Hill Church.

Sarah Dephtereos has been named a semi-finalists in the 2009 National Merit Scholarship program.

We would like to thank our September newsletter volunteers for their help. They were: Janet Davis, George Ehinger, Mary Honeycutt, Betty Johnson, Helen Lamp, Marion McIlwain, Carol Romanow, and Pauline Tukes. It was followed by a thank you brunch

BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES **OCTOBER, 2008**

- 1 Nina Lightcap, Jack Brandt
- 2 Sheila Higgins
- 3 Cynthia Waters
- 4 Margaret Okasako; Maxine Pucci; Charles & Anne Ambuhl (A)
- 5 Laura Kittel, Kathie Kostic
- 6 Tom Forsyth
- 11 Howard Martin
- 14 Jeffrey Kittel
- 15 Christina Brandt
- 16 Sue Johnston, Pauline Tukes
- 17 Annika Bickford
- 21 Jen-Elise Prescott
- 25 Peter & Colleen Adams (A)
- 26 Beth Burns, Ted Robinson, Kimberly Witty
- 27 Paul Dilworth
- 29 Katherine Zareski; Susan & Jan Luse (A)
- 31 Cynthia Lyons

