

**January 18, 2026**

**Our Vision—A beacon of God's love radiating faith, hope, and joy... Everywhere!**

The 2026 Flower Chart is up. Please sign up for your special dates. Feb 1, 15, and 22<sup>nd</sup> as well as March 1, 22<sup>nd</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> are available. Please let Betsy know if you would like her to order flowers for you. They are such a beautiful addition to our Altar.

If you have vases from previous Sundays, please bring them in to be returned to our Florist.

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### **Special Charge Conference**

On Wednesday, February 4<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm, there will be a Special Charge Conference to review Victor Strama's Candidacy for Ministry during the Council Meeting in the Concord Room. All Church Members are invited to participate.

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### **Confirmation Class – Parent Meeting - Today**

**Sunday, January 18, noon – 12:30 p.m.**

Pastor John will meet with all confirmation parents/guardians in the Sanctuary for a short discussion about the upcoming confirmation class.

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### **Confirmation Mentors Needed**

We are looking for mentors for the youth in our upcoming confirmation class. A mentor doesn't need to be a trained theologian or someone who has all the answers. Rather, a mentor is an adult who is mature in the faith and can walk alongside a young person on the confirmation journey. If you are interested in serving as a mentor, please contact Pastor John or Lee Williams.

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### **Super Bowl Sub Sale**

The senior youth group will be taking orders for sub sandwiches on January 18 and 25, and February 1. Place your orders in the basket located in the hallway or email your order to: [aumc-education@verizon.net](mailto:aumc-education@verizon.net). Pick-up is February 8, after each service. Donations will go towards the youth mission trip this summer.



**Please continue bringing your Special Giving for the remainder of January.**

We have collected \$7152 in the basket this year toward the Advent Gift. Thank you all for supporting the Yambasu Agricultural Initiative as part of the UMC Global Ministries Agriculture and Food Ministry Program on Sunday, January 4 and 11

We invite you to continue to bring your monetary gifts from the savings we have made and place them in the offering plate during the offertory or mail them to the church office if you are worshipping remotely.

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### **Outreach**

The Outreach Committee invites you to celebrate Undie Sundie on Feb 1<sup>st</sup>. Please start January 18<sup>th</sup> bringing this Sunday, January 18<sup>th</sup> to bring new underwear to fill the Long Johns in the narthex between now and Feb 1<sup>st</sup>. Men's, women's and children's underwear are all welcome.

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### **Coming Up at Aldersgate January – April 2026**

Saturday January 24<sup>th</sup> – Merrimack Valley 4H Education Program 9am – 3pm

Super Bowl Sub Sale: Pickup Feb 8<sup>th</sup> – Order by Feb 1<sup>st</sup>

Ash Wednesday service at W. Chelmsford UMC: February 18, 7:30 pm

Red Cross Blood Drive: February 21, 9:00 am – 2:00 pm

Lenten Soup Suppers (6:00 pm) & Laity-led Lenten services (7:00 pm)  
February 25, March 4, March 11, March 18, March 25

Pack 81 Pinewood Derby: February 28, 8:00 am – 1:00 pm

Local Pastor Preaching Lab: **Saturday March 7**, 9:00 am – 2:00 pm

Troop 81 Pancake Breakfast/Scout Sunday: March 8, 8:00 – 11:00 am

Pack 81 Blue & Gold Dinner: March 21, 4:30 pm – 8:00 pm

Palm Sunday March 29, 8:30 am and 10:45 am

Passover Seder Meal: April 2, 6:00 pm

Maundy Thursday service: April 2, 7:30 pm

Easter Egg Hunt: April 4, 10:00 – 11:30 am

Easter Breakfast: April 5, 7:30 am – 10:30 am

Easter services: April 5, 8:30 am and 10:45 am

Red Cross Blood Drive: April 18, 9:00 am – 2:00 pm

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**You can schedule your appointment for the next Blood Drives  
for Feb 21<sup>st</sup> and April 18<sup>th</sup> from 9am-2pm**

**Please sign up if you can help this important cause. There continues to be a national shortage!** Please call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or visit [RedCrossBlood.org](http://RedCrossBlood.org) and search under December 27<sup>th</sup> to schedule an appointment. For more information call or email Cate Lehan or Robin Dye or the church office.

## Adult Education

There will be **no Adult Education Class today**. Please enjoy refreshments and connecting with others in the Fellowship Hall between the services.

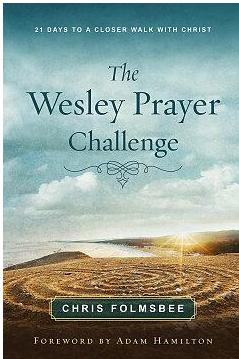
There will be **no Bible Study on Thursday, January 22**. Class will resume January 29 at 10:00 am in the Concord Room with Chapter 3 of *Truth in A Post-Truth World* by D. Stephen Long.

### Beginning Sunday, January 25<sup>th</sup>: The 21 Day Wesleyan Prayer Challenge

“The Wesley Covenant Prayer has been used in Methodist services around the world on the first Sunday of the year since John Wesley introduced it in 1755. Wesley expected that people would pray this prayer as a way of remembering, renewing, and surrendering themselves in complete trust to God. When we pray it, we are to remember what living like Jesus looks like and what loving God with all our heart, soul, and mind and loving our neighbor as ourselves requires of us.

In The Wesley Prayer Challenge, author Chris Folmsbee invites readers to consider words from the Wesley Covenant Prayer each day for three weeks while reflecting on their meaning in the context of the larger piece. Each day's reading will include scripture, prayer, and a challenge for daily life.” From Abingdon Press

Pick up a copy at your favorite online bookseller of *The Wesley Prayer Challenge* participant guide by Chris Folmsbee. Then join us to discuss it and a short video in the Concord Room and on Zoom at 9:45 am, between the services.



## Early Bird Bible Study

Early Bird continues to examine the topics of 'God's will' and 'God kingdom' and our role as kingdom builders on our Christian journey. This week we will look at the parables of the lost sheep and lost coin to discern what light they might shine on God's kingdom. Read Luke 15:1-10 in preparation for the discussion.

Will you be a volunteer for Christ? (Psalm 110:3)