

# THE TOWER

A Monthly Publication of The Golden Hill  
United Methodist Church  
An Open and Affirming Congregation

## October 2018 Volume 55 Number 8

### October is Ministry Appreciation Month

This is a special time to express our appreciation for the ministries God has placed in our churches to bless us. Let's open our ears to hear His voice as we look for ways to bless those who serve us on God's behalf.

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**The Council of Churches of Greater Bridgeport** Food Access program needs your help in ensuring that the 40 food pantries and soup kitchens in our **Hunger Outreach Network (HON)** can stock their shelves with healthy food throughout the coming fall and early winter.

**Please participate in the virtual food drive**, which allows them to buy food wholesale and in bulk, greatly increasing the buying power of an individual's contribution or consider making a recurring, monthly donation to ensure that HON's critical stocks of food to support the forty pantries that serve 20,000 unique visitors per month remains consistent. Pantries often run low after the surge of holiday food donations starts to run dry and during the summer months.

To access more information or to contribute:  
[www.ccgpb.org/CCGB/VirtualFoodDrive](http://www.ccgpb.org/CCGB/VirtualFoodDrive)

**An old proverb states that  
"If you want to travel far, travel together."**

### Weekenders Backpack Program

Happy October! We are still waiting for the beautiful leaves and the cooler temperatures, but the calendar tells us it is fall. The students at Geraldine Claytor Magnet Academy in Bridgeport are settling into the school year and we continue another school year of our Weekenders Backpack ministry outreach to alleviate food insecurity. While our cupboards are well stocked with some items, we are looking for many of our protein items on our grocery lists. All contributions are much appreciated, whether it is one item or several. Thanks so much for all you do to support this ministry.



Looking for a volunteer niche at Golden Hill? Planning, shopping and packing for Weekenders Backpack program are possibilities. Talk to Becki Anderson or Mary Agostino if you have questions or are interested.

### NOVEMBER TIME CHANGE REMINDER

Set your clocks back Saturday night, November 3rd to arrive at church on time on Sunday, November 4th as Daylight Saving Time Ends.

The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make his face to shine upon you, and be gracious to you; the Lord lift up his countenance upon you, and give you peace.  
— Numbers 24-26

### GOLDEN HILL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

210 Elm Street, Bridgeport, CT 06604 (203) 336-0152

Office E-mail: [office@goldenhill.org](mailto:office@goldenhill.org)

Website: <http://www.goldenhill.org>



The mission of the Golden Hill United Methodist Church, a unique, diverse and dynamic Christian community, is to serve Christ in the city and the world through members who are ambassadors for Christ.

# In the Spirit

By Beth Collins

October can be a time of reflection and gratitude. The calendar year is over three quarters complete. The reality of life in the world is one of joys and disappointments. I pray that this year has been one with more blessings than sorrows. The promise of a life with Jesus Christ is one of everlasting hope and love. As Christians, we are called to cling to the never changing love of God through his son, Jesus. As Christians, we are also called to change, by continuing to grow in faith throughout our lives.

Are you the same person you were when you completed school? What have you learned about the world, life and your faith? We continue to make plans to grow as a Golden Hill United Methodist Church faith community. How have others encouraged you in your faith journey? I pray during this month you will commit yourself to grow in faith in the coming year and to encourage, both longtime friends and new acquaintances to grow with you.

I pray in this fall season you will gain strength from God's love to do any of the following:

Count your blessings,

Focus on things that last, like God's love for you,

Celebrate simple pleasures of nature

Reach out to others that are more vulnerable than you (physically or through prayer) .

I pray you will feel joy, love, peace, comfort and strength in this season.

## Our growth continues...

You are invited to join our next Strategic Planning Event II on Saturday, October 6th. We will meet in the Golden Hill Church Parlor from 9:00 am until 12:00 noon. With Pastor Tisha and Rev. Gilmore as our facilitators, we will be working on our map to the future based on our vision.



"We are called to connect all people with Jesus in loving, faithful and authentic relationships."

We have already identified strengths and some challenges and obstacles. Come join us plan our journey to the future together. Please call the church office at (203) 336-0152 if you plan to attend.

### CELEBRATING...

## Stewardship Commitment Sunday With a Potluck Luncheon

The Stewardship Committee invites the congregation to  
**The Annual Potluck Luncheon  
after the 10:45 AM worship service  
Sunday, October 28, 2018**

We want everyone to share and partake in making scrumptious dishes. Please prepare your contribution to the luncheon as indicated by the first letter of your last name.

- A - F Meat or Pasta Dish
- G - M Dessert
- N - S Salad or Vegetable Dish
- T - Z Bread and Butter or Beverages

Questions or suggestions? Please call me at 203-268-4899. Or email me at [jfloyd01@snet.net](mailto:jfloyd01@snet.net)

Gerri Floyd, Stewardship Committee member,  
Golden Hill United Methodist Church

### GOLDEN HILL ADMINISTRIVIA

The office phone is **203-336-0152**  
the fax is **203-336-9457**

#### How To Reach Us ONLINE!!

Pastor Tisha Branch	PastorT@goldenhill.org
Melodye Merola	outreach@goldenhill.org
Dan Pettit	dpettit@goldenhill.org
Brenda Hogue	office@goldenhill.org
Jorge Moreno	sexton@goldenhill.org
The Tower	tower@goldenhill.org
Office hours:	
Tuesday thru Thursday, 9:00 am - 2:45 pm	



### Golden Hill Music Ministries have started a new musical group



“Joyful Noise” is an opportunity to sing in worship with minimum commitment.

**Rehearsal is at 10:15 a.m. the second Sunday of the month.** That Sunday we will sing a hymn or something familiar in the service.

You can sit wherever you like during the service and come forward and sing (standing or seated), No climbing of stairs required, no choir robe needed, no experience needed, just come and make a Joyful Noise!

**You Might be asking:**

**How do I become a part of Joyful Noise?**

**Just show up the second Sunday of the month at 10:15 a.m.** The next time Joyful Noise will sing is **Sunday, October 14th.** We will be singing “Order My Steps”! Come make a Joyful Noise!

**See you on October 14<sup>th</sup> at 10:15 a.m.  
by the Piano in the Sanctuary.**

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### Confirmation Classes begin

All youth entering 6th through 12th grade, that have not yet been confirmed, were invited to be part of the Golden Hill Confirmation class which starts on October 8th. They will meet on Mondays from 5:30 – 7:00 pm in the church parlor. This time of growth in our faith and preparation to join the church can be exciting.

### Participate at Church Conference

You are invited to attend our annual Church Conference scheduled for Sunday, Dec 9th at 4:00 p.m. The Connecticut District Superintendent Rev. Dr. Alpher Sylvester will preside over the meeting. Watch for additional information in Grace Notes and email communication from the church office.

### Children’s Sunday School

Our children completed a study on the 10 Commandments, and are now learning about Joseph’s Journey. Joseph was the son of Jacob, and Joseph had many older brothers. The Bible verse the children are learning is: “The Lord was with Joseph” found in the Old Testament of the Bible in Genesis 39:2. We use the Deep Blue Rotation curriculum that include activities using art, cooking, science, games, missions, spiritual practices, and storytelling/drama.



This is the day  
that the  
Lord has made.  
Let us rejoice  
and be glad in it!

*The Tower* is a monthly newsletter of the Golden Hill United Methodist Church, 210 Elm Street, Bridgeport, CT 06604. Submission deadline for articles is the 15th day of the month.

Editor: Jenny McLachlan

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# CHURCH CALENDAR



## Thursday, Oct 4

7:30 pm Church Council Meeting

**Sat, Oct 6** Habitat for Humanity 5K Run for Home, at Bridgeport Seaside Park

**Sat Oct 6** Church Growth Strategic Planning, 9:00 am - 12 Noon

## Sunday, Oct 7 World Communion Sunday

8:30 am Chapel Worship Service

9:45 am Adult Sunday School, Parlor

9:45 am Choir Warm up

10:45 am Sanctuary Worship Service & Children's Sunday school

12:00 Noon Older Adult Gathering w/Pastor Tisha (after 10:45 service)

6:30 pm United Methodist Youth Fellowship (UMYF)

## Mon, Oct 8 Columbus Day Observed

5:30 – 7:00 pm Confirmation Class in the Parlor

**Thurs, Oct 11,** 7:30 pm SPPRC Meeting

## Sunday, Oct 14

8:30 am Chapel Worship Service

9:45 am Adult Sunday School, Parlor

9:45 am Choir Warm up

10:15 am Joyful Noise choir rehearsal, Sanctuary

10:45 am Sanctuary Worship Service & Children's Sunday school

6:30 pm United Methodist Youth Fellowship (UMYF)

**Mon, Oct 15,** 5:30 – 7:00 pm Confirmation Class in the Parlor

**Thurs, Oct 18,** 7:30 pm FINANCE Meeting

## Sunday, Oct 21 Laity Sunday

8:30 am Chapel Worship Service

9:45 am Adult Sunday School, Parlor

9:45 am Choir Warm up

10:45 am Sanctuary Worship Service & Children's Sunday school

6:30 pm United Methodist Youth Fellowship (UMYF)

**Mon., Oct 22,** 5:30 – 7:00 pm Confirmation Class in the Parlor

**Wed, Oct 24,** 6:30 pm Society & Missions Meets

**Thurs, Oct 25 ,** 7:00 pm Trustee Meeting

**Sat, October 27,** Conference UMW Annual Meeting at St. James Church, Kingston, NY

## Sunday, Oct 28

### Stewardship Commitment Sunday

Guest Preacher will be Rev. Dr. Alpher Sylvester, CT District Superintendent

8:30 am Chapel Worship Service

9:45 am Adult Sunday School, Parlor

9:45 am Choir Warm up

10:45 am Sanctuary Worship Service & Children's Sunday school,

Stewardship Commitment Sunday Potluck Luncheon following 10:45 am worship service, Locke Hall

6:30 pm United Methodist Youth Fellowship (UMYF)

## LOOKING AHEAD

Nov 4 **Daylight Saving Time Ends**

Nov 11, 3:30 pm **CT District UMW Celebration** at Golden Hill UMC

**Golden Hill Christmas Baskets,** November & December preparations (more details soon)



## Nativity Art Exhibit during Advent

This year we will be celebrating the advent of Christmas with a display of personal "Nativity Art-work" in Locke Hall on Saturday, December 8th. All of us will have the opportunity to share and view diverse Christmas objects and Nativity scenes (Including yours!) on loan from our congregation members! Stay tuned for more details about this celebration of "The Star of Bethlehem".

To learn more about this event, please contact Eric Johnson at 203-913-7088.

For unto us a child is born. - Isaiah 9:6



## Step out for a good cause: Habitat for Humanity 5K Run or Walk Oct 6th

On Saturday, October 6th, Habitat for Humanity of Coastal Fairfield County is hosting a 5K event at Seaside Park. This organization has a rich history with Golden Hill United Methodist Church, and the race would be a chance to strengthen that relationship. Even though Habitat for Humanity has a strong presence internationally, we have a large branch in the city of Bridgeport, itself. This means that contributions go directly to developing the homes in our city and thus grows the sense of pride with our contribution.

Every family needs a place to live. Habitat for Humanity provides that.

The deadline for pre-registering has passed, but you can register on day of the event at Seaside Park. Event information can be found online at:

[www.habitatcfc.org/RunforHome](http://www.habitatcfc.org/RunforHome)

Like the tide going in and out of the shores of Seaside Park, Bridgeport has experienced its share of challenging times. Every city goes through these times, but this is our city. Your contribution will provide shelter for a family that is growing and will allow them to grow in our city. I hope you join me in participating on October 6th.

If you have any questions, please reach out to me at (607) 229-4165 or via email at [kjlabbuff@gmail.com](mailto:kjlabbuff@gmail.com). Thank you and God bless!

To learn more about Habitat for Humanity of Coastal Fairfield County, check out the website:

[www.habitatcfc.org](http://www.habitatcfc.org)




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### Sunday Morning Adult Study

Our Golden Hill adult discussion group meets on Sunday morning at 9:45 am in the church parlor. The theme for the fall study is *God's Word and God's People*. The weekly lessons and Bible readings offer us the opportunity to encounter God in ways that change us, and give us new purpose, direction and strength. All are welcome to participate. No experience required.

We invite you to join us in fellowship for one or more Sundays as we gather together as a small group. Mize Johnson is the group leader.

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### Meetings/Ministries that Happen Weekly at Golden Hill United Methodist Church

**Sunday** our worship times are 8:30 am Chapel Service and 10:45 am Sanctuary Service

- |                  |   |
|------------------|---|
| <b>Sunday</b>    | <b>Nursery class in the Nursery</b> (every Sunday when dismissed from 10:45 am service)<br><b>Children's Sunday School</b> (every Sunday when dismissed from 10:45 am service)<br><b>9:45 am Adult Sunday School</b> in the Parlor<br><b>6:30 pm United Methodist Youth Fellowship (UMYF)</b>   |
| <b>Monday</b>    | <b>5:30 pm Confirmation</b>   |
| <b>Tuesday</b>   | 7:30 pm N.A. (Narcotics Anonymous) in Locke Hall  |
| <b>Wednesday</b> | <b>2:00 pm Shower Ministry</b> in the Lounge & Showers<br><b>5:00 pm Community Supper</b> in Locke Hall<br><b>6:00 - 9:00 pm Boy Scouts</b> in Locke Hall & Library<br><b>6:30 pm Prayer Group</b> in the chapel<br><b>7:30 pm Choir Rehearsal</b> in Wesley Suite<br><i>(Choir members should check Dan's music calendar for occasional changes)</i> |
| <b>Thursday</b>  | 7:00 pm N.A. (Narcotics Anonymous) in Locke Hall  |
| <b>Friday</b>    | 7:00 pm C.M.A. (Crystal Meth Anonymous) in Library  |



**NOTE: Bold Print denotes a church related event/meeting, non-bold items are outside groups**

## Link Up with Jesus & Grow in Faith Together



In preparation for our 2019 Stewardship program, we reflected on some of the activities over the last two years where we have been looking at where God would have Golden Hill go. The strength of our relationship with Jesus is the most important thing affecting our life, both personally and as a “Church”.

Yes, the Church needs our gifts of time, talents and financial support but more importantly, we all can use a closer relationship with Jesus.

Social media plays a major role in many people’s lives and they constantly use things like Facebook, Twitter, and LinkedIn to connect with other people. For many people, this activity is part of searching for relationships and meaning in their lives. For Christians, the most important part of our life is how strong is our relationship with Jesus and with other people in our faith community. What power it will have in both our personal lives and for Golden Hill if we improve our “Connection” with Jesus. With this in mind, our focus for this year is:

### Link Up with Jesus and Grow in Faith Together

Our challenge is to “**Link up with Jesus**” so we continue to grow and strengthen our faith. There are many ways we make our link with Jesus stronger: by growing our Prayer life, being diligent with our Presence, sharing our Gifts, Serving with Love like the example Jesus gave us, and Sharing the joy of Jesus by our Witness and daily actions.

While Jesus is always here for us, he also showed how we can grow by being part of a faith community. Jesus sent out his disciples together 2 by 2 to support each other. The early Churches worshiped, lived and worked together. John Wesley, instructed his followers on living and growing in a Christian community where fellowship strengthens and increases the richness of our life.

We motivate each other by how we share our time, talents, and treasure to reflect how we live out the Gospel of Jesus Christ in our daily lives. We encourage and support each other in difficult times. Our shared joys are multiplied and shared sorrows are diminished. We multiply the impact that we have on the world by working together as a community. As we share our God given gifts and grow in faith together, we become more like Jesus and become His hands and feet in our church, our community, and our world.

Let us enter this season with gladness as we Grow in Faith Together.

During the worship services, between now and October 28th, we will have Stewardship moments, with Golden Hill United Methodist Church members, talking about the different ways the Church has helped them strengthen their connection with Jesus and “Grow in Faith”.

Sunday, October 28th is our **Stewardship Commitment Celebration** when we will present our personal commitment to God’s work and celebrate the ways that Golden Hill United Methodist Church makes a difference.

We invite you to join us for a **Stewardship Commitment Celebration potluck luncheon Oct 28** after the 10:45 a.m. worship service, to gather together in fellowship, just as working together allows us to do the work that God has planned.

- Mize Johnson, Stewardship Committee

# DISCOVER OUR IMPACT!

Join us for  
**COCKTAILS AND CANAPES**

to discover how the  
Council of Churches of Greater Bridgeport (CCGB)  
creates and sustains a more just, healthy, and vibrant society

**Wednesday, October 10, 2018 | 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.**

Discovery Museum • 4450 Park Avenue • Bridgeport, Connecticut

**Mingle + Impact Update + Support the Future**

All proceeds from the evening's paddle raise auction  
will support the vital programs of CCGB

RSVP to Helen Yeotsas at [helenyeotsas@ccgb.org](mailto:helenyeotsas@ccgb.org) or 203-334-1121 by October 3

### **CAN'T ATTEND?**

Please consider making an impact by donating at [www.ccgb.org/donate](http://www.ccgb.org/donate)

The evening is underwritten by an anonymous member of The Stewards Society



*leveraging hope, changing lives*

[ccgb.org](http://ccgb.org)

# Honoring Our Saints

*Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of his faithful ones.  
Psalm 115:16*



Let us gather together for **All Saints Sunday, November 4, 2108** to praise God and to celebrate the lives of our loved ones who have gone on to glory. Join us as we continue to remember their love and their life of faith.

If you would like your loved one(s) listed, please provide us with the following information **on or before Thursday, October 25, 2018**. God's continual blessings!

Name	Relationship	Year
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

Please notify the church office by Thursday, October 25, 2018

***Save the Date!***  
**Please join us for a**  
**Connecticut District**  
**United Methodist Women Celebration**

**Sunday, November 11, 2018**  
**3:30 PM**  
**at**



**Golden Hill United Methodist Church**  
**210 Elm St. Bridgeport, CT 06604**

**Please RSVP to:**  
**Golden Hill UMC, by phone at 203-336-0152**  
**or email: [office@goldenhill.org](mailto:office@goldenhill.org)**



**New York Conference United Methodist Women**

# **ANNUAL MEETING / LEARNING FAIR**

**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 27, 2018**

**9:00 AM - 4PM**

**(Sign-in and continental breakfast starting at 7:30am)**

**St. James United Methodist Church**

35 Pearl Street, Kingston, NY 12401

Rev. Robert T. Milsom, Pastor

## **“The Power of Bold”**



**Come – Celebrate – Learn and be Entertained!**

**Registration Fee: \$30 includes Continental Breakfast and Luncheon**

**Register online via [www.NYAC.com](http://www.NYAC.com)**

**REGISTRATION DEADLINE OCTOBER 11, 2018**

<b>Registrar</b>	<b>Joan Robinson</b>	<b>(845) 246 9289</b> <a href="mailto:jrobinson@hvc.rr.com">jrobinson@hvc.rr.com</a>
<b>District President</b>	<b>Barbara Sanborn</b>	<a href="mailto:Saug68@gmail.com">Saug68@gmail.com</a>
<b>Conference President</b>	<b>Judith McRae</b>	<a href="mailto:jukhazu@msn.com">jukhazu@msn.com</a>

**NYAC  
LAITY CONVOCATION  
NOVEMBER 17, 2018**

Tarrytown House Estate on the Hudson- 49 E Sunnyside Ln, Tarrytown, NY 10591

**Flood Gates**  
Holy Momentum For a Fearless Church

**Rev. Sue Nilson Kibby, Author and Presenter**

**CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST & REGISTRATION - 6:45-8:45 AM**

**OPENING WORSHIP & PLENARY - 9 AM**

**LUNCH**

**PLENARY**

**COMMUNION MEDITATION - 2:15 PM**

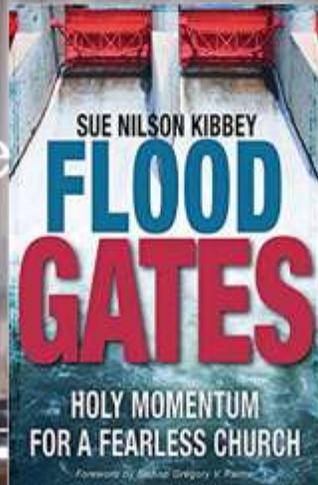
**REGISTRATION**

\$25 if you have the book

\$30 if you need a copy mailed

We suggest reading Flood Gates in advance

Register online  
at [NYAC.com](http://NYAC.com)



Please contact Roena Littlejohn for additional information:  
203-331-9653