



November 2025

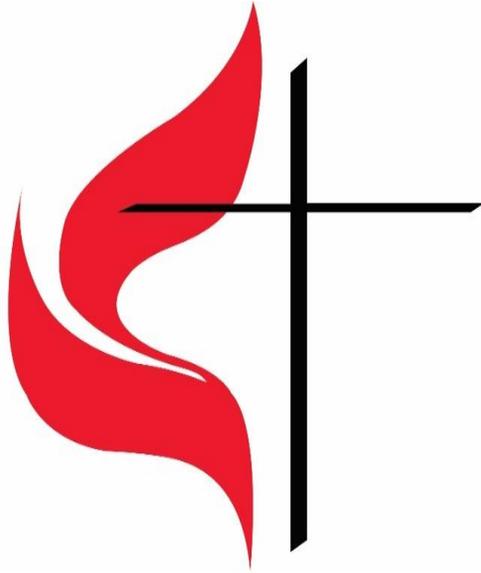
November message from Pastor Zach:

The transition from October to November is sometimes subtle. Take pumpkins for example. In October, they serve as Jack O' lanterns warding off malevolent spirits. In November, they represent harvest abundance. In October, they sit on our front steps. In November, they sit in cornucopias.

Another subtlety can be found in remembering the dead. Halloween, or All Hallows Eve, is related to the ancient Celtic festival of Samhain, when in addition to marking the changing seasons, was also a time, the Celts believed, when the dead return to earth. To ward off these unwelcomed spirits, they dressed up in disguises (costumes) and lit bonfires.

In the 8th century, Pope Gregory III led the church in designating November 1 as the festival of All Hallows or All Saints, honoring the church's saints. In turn, the following day became a day for praying for All Souls of the departed, especially those believed to be in purgatory.

Separately, for indigenous peoples in what is now Mexico and



United Methodist Church
of Danielson

The Cross & Flame
Journal

Mission Statement:
**Learning the Three O's - Open
Hearts, Open Minds, Open
Doors**

Vision Statement:
Repentance, Renewal, Reform

central America, particularly the Aztecs, this season became known as Dia de los Muertos, or the Day of the Dead - a time for joyfully acknowledging the important role death plays in life. From October 31 November 2 the boundary between this world and the next is believed to be thin enough for the souls of the departed to briefly return. Families mark this time of celebration by honoring their ancestors with food, music, and decorating the graves of their loved ones.

What ties the pumpkins and honoring the memory of saints and loved ones is the importance of living in a spirit of gratitude. We are called to not take what we have for granted.

We give thanks for family and friends, for the roof over our heads and daily bread in our pantries. We give thanks for God's presence, goodness and grace protecting us from evil and keeping us from sin. We give thanks for God's strength, joy, love, peace, and hope to endure challenging seasons. We give thanks to God for making life precious and important.

In both Paul's first letter to the Thessalonians and letter to the Ephesians, we are instructed to "Rejoice always. Pray continually. Give thanks in every situation because this

is God's will for you in Christ Jesus" (1 Thess 5:16-18, CEB); to "speak to each other with psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs; sing and make music to the Lord in your hearts; always give thanks to God the Father for everything in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ; and submit to each other out of respect for Christ" (Eph 5:19-21).

Whether we give thanks for pumpkins or holy days dedicated to the memory of loved ones, we do so in a spirit of gratitude. The gift of loved ones, of a God who promises to never leaves nor forsakes us is worth our gratitude.

So, in this season of transition, be grateful for new life in the face of death's shadow. Be grateful for the dual meaning of pumpkins and a death that's lost its sting. Be grateful for one another, and know that I am grateful for all of you.

See you in Church,
Pastor Zach



**Welcome
to the
United Methodist Church
of Danielson**

We're glad you found us.

Contact Us at ...

Church Office: 860-779-2018

Church Email:

betsy.kneeland@umcdanielson.org

Pastor's Cell: 217-840-1623

Pastor's Email:

pastor.zach@umcdanielson.org

Media Email:

media@umcdanielson.org

~ Church Office Hours~

Tuesday: 8:30 a.m.- Noon

~Pastor's Office Hours~

Tuesday: 9:30 a.m. - Noon

Wednesday: 10 a.m. - Noon

Thursday: @ Killingly Public Library:
10-12 p.m., or any other time by
appointment.

Pastor Zach's Sabbath are Fridays.

Things to put on your calendar:



All Saint's Day Service 11/1 at 11:00
including memorials for Leon
Stevenson and Sandy Richards

Friendsgiving potluck after church on
11/16 - See Cassi for details.

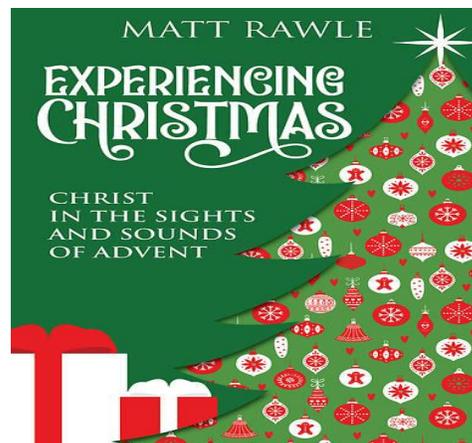


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**Advent Study starts November
30**



Church Happenings:

Sunday:

9:30 a.m. Sunday School

10:15 a.m. Worship - In Person and Zoom (See link below)

2 p.m. Davis Place - every 1st Sunday

2 - 3 p.m. Al Anon in fellowship hall

Tuesday:

1 p.m. K.B.I.C. every 3rd Tuesday

Wednesday:

12p.m. Community Kitchens

Friday:

10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Diaper Bank, last Friday of the month

6:30 - 8pm: NA in fellowship hall

Saturday:

9 - 10 am: Bible Study in Christian Ed Room and ZOOM (See link below)

10:15: Grief Group (2nd and 4th Saturdays) in Christian Ed Room and ZOOM (See link below)

ZOOM Info: Sunday Service:

Meeting ID: 899 8668 2568

Adult Sunday School: **Meeting**

ID: 862 3566 5633

Bible study and Grief Group: **Meeting**

ID: 707 166 7519

Liturgist schedule:

November 2 - Cyndi Perkins

November 9 - Sandy Andrews

November 16 - Scott Richards

November 23 - Youth

November 30 - Sue Martin

Children's Moments:

November 2 - Pastor Zach

November 9 - Cassi Miles

November 16 - Chrissy Pagano

November 23 - Sue Martin

November 30 - Betsy Kneeland



**Friendsgiving Potluck -
Sunday November 16 after
church. Share a
Thanksgiving meal with your
church family. See Cassi
with details or sign up on the
website.**



Please sign up for Coffee Time and greeters. Please see Sandy Andrews with questions or to sign the sign-up sheets.

There is also a sign-up sheet for flowers on the back table. If you want to give flowers in honor or in memory of a loved one, friend, pet, special occasion, etc. please sign up!



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- 11/8 Ellyana Miles
- 11/11 Lee Wrigley
- 11/22 Colton Kerns
- 11/27 Ron Kneeland
- 11/28 Del Tomasi
- 11/28 Elle Sharrow



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Christmas Pageant - December 20 - Details to follow

Mystery person:

I attended Girl Scout Roundup at
Button Bay, Lake Champlain in 1962



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Getting to Know... Cheryl and Ray Owen

How and why did you come to this church?

Ray's grandmother, Helen Bowen was a long-time member of the church prior to her death.

How long have you been coming to UMCD?

Approximately 1.5 years.

What is or was your profession?

Ray was a Press Operator and Cheryl worked in a bakery.

What are your hobbies/interests?

Ray enjoys playing the guitar and Cheryl loves watching TV.

A few words to describe yourself...

Cheryl and Ray describe themselves each as kindhearted, thoughtful and caring.

Leadership group:

Lay Leader: Cyndi Perkins

Office Manager: Betsy Kneeland

Reverend: Zach LeCrone

IT/Media Director: Cori Sharrow

Please feel free to share any of your special events: joys & celebrations, anniversaries, birthdays, special awards/honors, trips, etc. The deadline for news items is the 10th of each month. Send info to betsy.kneeland@umcdanielson.org

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The church's email has changed.

Please use

betsy.kneeland@umcdanielson.org

going forward.

