



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

September 2025

September message from Pastor Zach

I don't know about you, but I'm a life-long learner. I discovered this about myself later in life than some. It happened when I went back to school in 2013 to begin my journey into ordained ministry. Having a family and a full-time ministry position, I had to go about it slowly. For those next eleven years, I felt like a career student. Though, school had been an issue for me in the past, once I got into subjects I was interested in and enjoyed, I didn't mind as much. In fact, I loved every stressful minute of it!

I was a history major, with a unofficial minor in philosophy. I enjoyed the reading assignments and writing about what I learned. Unlike some of my classmates (the majority of whom were much younger than me), I was excited when we had to give presentations. This is probably partially why my Bible study and Sunday school classes sometimes feel like lectures, lol. I like to share what I've learn with people. I enjoy passing on knowledge.

Having graduated with my master's two years ago now, these days I must live vicariously (and no doubt, a little annoyingly) through my kid's (and some of our youth's) school careers. Ask Joie or Em how the ride home is every day, and they will tell you that I have them tell me what they did in every class that day.

We find in the Bible that God values education, the pursuit of knowledge, and that knowledge begins with a reverence to God. "The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge; fools despise wisdom and instruction" (Prov 1:7, NRSVue). I take that to mean that knowing God allows us to "know better" in general, how to relate to ourselves, our neighbors, the wisdom and instruction we gather.

If we want to be Christians who exercise a good and informed faith, we need to learn as much as we can, not just about God, but also about the world God created, and what God's creation has been up to since it was all set in motion.

Some knowledge is fun to learn, other knowledge is not so fun. I discovered this dual reality when getting my bachelor's. But that's what you get with a fallen world. Unfortunately, not everyone has loved knowledge, and thus God's creation

has suffered the consequences. But we don't shy away from knowledge just because some of it's hard to hear. We're supposed to learn from both successes and failures. We don't get to pick and choose to say what happened. We don't get to cover up or wish away the unpleasant parts. God has already seen them, and no amount of whitewashing of exhibits can change that. Grace, mercy, forgiveness, reconciliation, and transformation are hard to come by without confession and repentance.

We are to love God, ourselves, our neighbors, and this good creation the best we can. And one of the ways we do that is by taking to heart the instructions of Proverbs:

"Get wisdom; get insight: do not forget nor turn away from the words of my mouth. Do not forsake her [Wisdom], and she will keep you; love her, and she will guide you. The beginning of wisdom is this: get wisdom, and whatever else you get, get insight. Prize her highly, and she will exalt you; she will honor you if you embrace her. She will place on your head a fair garland; she will bestow on you a beautiful crown" (Prov 4:5-9).

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:



RALLY DAY

SEPTEMBER 14

9:30 a.m.

Both Youth and Adult Sunday
School begins. Church will be
upstairs again too, if it's not too
hot. Our Youth will be
entertaining you with a skit for
the message on that day.



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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Church Happenings:

Sunday:

9:30 a.m. Sunday School starts on

9/14 - Adult and Children

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)

ZOOM Info: Sunday Service:

Meeting ID: 899 8668 2568

Adult Sunday School: **Meeting ID:** 862 3566 5633

Bible study: **Meeting ID:** 707 166 7519

Liturgist schedule:

September 7 - Cyndi Perkins

September 14 - Youth

September 21 - Sue Martin

September 28 - Ariana Miles

Children's Moments:

September 7 - Pastor Zach

September 14 - Cassi Miles

September 21 - Chrissy Pagano

September 28 - Sue Martin



Thank you, greeters, and coffee time treat providers. Thank you, Leon, John and Nick for stepping up to be greeters at Sunday morning worship. Thank you, Connie for your faithful help with Coffeetime. Much appreciation goes out to the eight to ten ladies who have been contributing the tasty treats for Coffeetime.

(Not listing names as I might leave someone out).

If you would like to serve our congregation in either of these ways, please sign up on the clipboard in the back on the table.

*Thank you,
Sandy Andrews*

Getting to Know...

Nicholas Malone

How and why did you come to this church?

The Coddling family recommended the church to Nick. He was looking for a church that he could commune with the people and share his love for Jesus. The Coddling family has been involved in this church going back generations.

How long have you been coming to UMCD?

About one year.

What is your profession?

Nick worked in shipping at Staples. He is now considering joining the military. Nick also volunteers at the Community Kitchens on Wednesdays.

What are your hobbies/interests?

Nick enjoys hiking and football. He likes to volunteer.

A few words to describe yourself...

Nick is kind to others, patient, and he likes to help others.



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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9/2 John Bradley, Jr.
9/8 Gail Bigelow

Leadership group:

Lay Leader: Cyndi Perkins

Office Manager: Betsy Kneeland

Reverend: Zach LeCrone

IT/Media Director: Cori Sharrow



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9/1 Ron and Betsy Kneeland

The church's email has changed. Please use betsy.kneeland@umcdanielson.org going forward.

