

Tue, April 1st @ 10:00
Veterans Coffee and Camaraderie

Tue, April 1st @ 6:45 pm
Bell Choir Practice
Add'l- 8th

Wed, April 2nd @ 10:00 am
Women's Bible Study
Add'l- 9th, 16th, 23rd, 30th

Thur, April 3rd @ 6:30 pm
Beer and the Bible- 804 Main
Add'l- 10th, 17th, 24th

Sun, April 6th- after Service
Children's Choir Practice

Sun, April 6th- after service
Choir Practice
Add'l- 13th

Sun, April 6th @ 6:00 pm - 7:30 pm
Middle School Youth Group
Add'l- 20th

Mon, April 7th @ 6:30 pm
Grief and Loss Support Group

Tue, April 8th @ 10:00 am
Coffee, Cookies, and Conversations

Fri, April 11th @ 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm
Serendipity Fun Night

Sat, April 12th @ 9:00 am - 12:00 pm
Easter Scavenger Hunt Around Norwalk

Sat, April 12th @ 11:00 am - 1:00 pm
Pictures with the Easter Bunny (Tom R) @ Wendy's

Sun, April 13th - Palm Sunday
Children's Choir Performs
Bell Choir Performs

Sun, April 13th - after Service
UWF's Sugar Buzz Fundraiser

Sun, April 13th @ 6:00 pm - 7:30 pm
High School Youth Group
Add'l- 27th

Mon, April 14th @ 6:00 pm
Board Meeting- Open to Everyone

Mon, April 14th @ 7:15 pm - 8:15 pm
Cub Scouts: Add'l- 28th

Thur, April 17th @ 7:00 pm
Host Maundy Thursday Service

Fri, April 18th @ 7:00 pm
Good Friday Service at Carlisle UMC or Norwalk Christian Church

Sun, April 20th @ 8:30 am
Easter Sunday Service

Sun, April 20th - during Service
Choir Sings

Sun, April 27th- during Service
"Noisy Can" Offering

Sun, April 27th - after service
Women's Choir Practice



Norwalk United Methodist Church

MAKING DISCIPLES OF JESUS CHRIST FOR THE TRANSFORMATION OF THE WORLD

norwalkumc.com

APRIL 2025

Join us for Worship

Sunday:
8:30 am In-person & Live Stream via Facebook

Faith Formation classes for PK thru 5th grade during service

Adult classes available after the service

Pastor Mike's Minute

Revelation 21:1-6

The New Heaven and the New Earth

Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying,

'See, the home of God is among mortals. He will dwell with them; they will be his peoples, and God himself will be with them; he will wipe every tear from their eyes. Death will be no more; mourning and crying and pain will be no more, for the first things have passed away.'

And the one who was seated on the throne said, 'See, I am making all things new.' Also he said, 'Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true.' Then he said to me, 'It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give water as a gift from the spring of the water of life.

New life...do you see the biblical theme? At the beginning of the Bible, in the very first verses of the very first book, Genesis, we hear the story of God creating. Creating something from nothing, creating light from darkness, creating life from the void. Over, and over again, throughout the Bible we witness God making something new again, bringing something back to life. Then, just when humanity needs it the most, God offers us the greatest story ever told. God sent his Son. Humankind unleashes a darkness that the world had not witnessed. In that moment all hope seems lost and just when we think it can't ever be light again, Sunday morning came, the tomb is rolled away, and the Greatest Light of all time is given back to us. Isn't that what the text from Revelation is talking about?

Do you see the theme now? Our lives follow much the same pattern. The life of our church follows the same pattern. Our communities, our families, you guessed it...the same pattern. Things are going well, something happens, and life seems to have gone off track, and then, just when we think all hope is lost, God finds a way to miraculously bring light back into our lives.

I want to invite you to come and spend the next few weeks with us in church on Sundays. If something has happened to you that seems to have taken you to a dark place, if your life is off track now and you are searching for The Light, or maybe some event is on your horizon and you want to be filled with The Light now, come and see what Easter is all about. You might just find The Light that you have been looking for, The Light that you need. After all, aren't new life and new light the themes of Easter? Peace to All- Mike

Sugar Buzz

Save the date! The United Women of Faith will host their annual "Sugar Buzz" event on Sunday, April 13th. Get ready for an incredible treat for your taste buds! We will be accepting donations of assorted goodies that can be brought that Sunday morning.

Summer Save the Dates

June 22, 23, 24 (Sun, Mon, Tues) - Vacation Bible School. We are using Cokesbury's Road Trip theme, where we will be on the go with God! Stay tuned for more details.

Friday, July 18 - Host Lunch in the Park

Whiz Kids

On **Monday May 5th**, we have been asked to take a night for **Whiz Kids**, an outreach program for kids at Madison Elementary. We need to arrive at Madison at 5:50. Gym time will go until 6:30 and Bible time will go from 6:30-7:00. We plan to eat from 7:00-7:25 and then reading with the kids goes from 7:25-7:50. Parent pick up/open gym goes up from 7:50-8:00.

We need to provide a main dish, a side, fruit/vegetable, drink and dessert for about 30-35 people with kids and adults included. A sign up sheet will be sent out later this month.

Warrior Giving

NAMA has changed how they are doing Warrior Giving, and now each church will take one month where they focus on those supplies. Our focus will be paper products in October. We'll send out a reminder in the fall.

Easter Scavenger Hunt Around Norwalk

Our church will be hosting our 5th Easter Scavenger Hunt around Norwalk. Participants come to our church between 9:00 and 12:00 on Saturday, April 12th, for a set of clues that will lead them around Norwalk to find Easter eggs and prizes. The planning is going great! There are flyers at the church to give to neighbors and friends. Help continue to spread the word and remember to register if you plan to attend! We can't wait to show you the recap on Palm Sunday!

Campaign Update

Thanks to everyone who donated in the Catchup Campaign so far. The digital sign is ordered and will likely be installed in May. The new parking lot will be done this summer either right before or after VBS in June. Lots of other improvements are coming too!

Holy Week

- **Palm Sunday Service:** Sunday, April 13th @ 8:30 am. Children's Choir and Bell Choir Perform
- **Maundy Thursday Service:** Thursday, April 17th @ 7:00 pm at our church- In partnership with Carlisle UMC and Norwalk Christian Church
- **Good Friday Service:** Friday, April 18th @ 7:00 pm. You are invited to attend at either Carlisle UMC with Pastor Mike or Norwalk Christian Church with Pastor Travis
- **Easter Sunday Service:** Sunday, April 20th @ 8:30 am

April Birthdays and Anniversaries

Hollie & Todd Fick- 22nd
Julie & Marc Collis - 23rd
Deb & Mike Billingsley- 29th

Riley Meusburger- 1st
Kate Friedman- 2nd
Isaac Johnson- 2nd
Meilin Grant- 3rd
Elise Greiner- 10th
Duane Ellis- 13th
Shelly McAninch 16th

Jerry Shepler- 16th
Joan VanVleet- 18th
Kathleen Rouse- 19th
Mike Rouse- 20th
Barb Dougherty- 27th
Peiton Grant- 27th