

May Link

Did you ever wonder when and how we began to celebrate Mother's Day? And did you know the original was by a mother and daughter, who were both Methodist Women?

In May 1908, Anna Jarvis organized the first official Mother's Day celebration at Andrews Methodist Episcopal Church in Grafton, West Virginia. She was continuing the work of her mother, Ann Jarvis, but the origin was different than you may think.

Ann Reeves Jarvis organized women's clubs in the 1860s to serve suffering mothers and children. She lived in a coal mining part of what is now West Virginia and was concerned by the effects of poverty on the women and their children of the area. She formed mothers' clubs to talk about infant hydration, sanitation and nutrition for children. Her desire was for better living conditions for mothers and their children.

When the civil war began, her emphasis changed, and she formed a field hospital to care for the sick and wounded, asking the women of the area to volunteer as nurses. Witnessing the ravages of war, she was soon convinced that it was the mothers who would be the best people to work for peace. It was the mothers who could clearly see how war was damaging their husbands and their sons. It was the mothers' voices that would be the most powerful plea for peace.

In 1868, [Ann Jarvis](#), organized a committee to establish a "Mother's Friendship Day", the purpose of which was "to reunite families that had been divided during the Civil War." Ann Jarvis, who had previously organized Mother's Day Work Clubs to improve sanitation and health for both Union and Confederate encampments undergoing a typhoid outbreak, wanted to expand these into an annual memorial for mothers,

Anna Jarvis died in 1905 before the annual celebration was established. Her daughter, Ann would continue her mother's efforts.

Ann Jarvis envisioned Mother's Day as a time to write a personal letter to your mother, a time to send her an inexpensive carnation (a flower in which the petals hold tight like a mother's love) and a time to visit or attend church together.

On May 9, 1914, President [Woodrow Wilson](#) issued a proclamation declaring the first national Mother's Day.

As Anna Jarvis knew, it is every mother's prayer that her children live in a peaceful, safe world.

Honor your mother and the women in your life who have given you unconditional love and pray for the peace which is every mother's wish.

Happy Mother's Day

Pastor Barbara

2025 The Connecticut District Conference

SATURDAY MAY 3, 2025	KEYNOTE SPEAKER SHEILA ARNOLD
EVENT HIGHLIGHTS: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 8:30 AM - 9:15 PM CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST• 9:15 PM - 12:30 PM PERFECTING TOOLS FOR EVANGELISM<ul style="list-style-type: none">◦ LEARNING THE ART OF STORYTELLING• 12:30 PM - 1:25 PM LUNCH (GOURMET MENU/BUFFET STYLE)• 1:30 PM - 2:00 PM CAN'T MISS! MINI CONCERT• 2:00 PM - 3:30 PM CONNECTICUT DISTRICT CONFERENCE<ul style="list-style-type: none">◦ RECOGNIZING CLM, LAY SPEAKERS, AND CONFIRMANDS◦ FAREWELL TO RETIREES◦ SPECIAL THANK YOU GIFT FROM DS ALL ATTENDEES	LOCATION: NORTH UMC HARTFORD MORNING SESSION: COLLIN BENNETT BUILDING AFTERNOON SESSION: SANCTUARY 1205 ALBANY AVENUE HARTFORD, CT 06112

Location

North (Hartford) UMC 1205 Albany Avenue, Hartford, CT 06112

Morning Session - Collin Bennett Building

Afternoon Session - Sanctuary

WHEN

Saturday, May 3, 2025 at 8:30 AM ET

WHERE

1205 Albany Avenue
Hartford, CT 06112

Agenda

- **8:30 AM - 9:15 PM** Continental Breakfast
- **9:15 PM - 12:30 PM** Perfecting Tools for Evangelism
 - ***Learning the art of storytelling - Sheila Arnold***
- **12:30 PM - 1:25 PM** Lunch (Gourmet Menu/Buffer Style)
- **1:30 PM - 2:00 PM** CAN'T MISS! Mini Concert
- **2:00 PM - 3:30 PM** Connecticut District Conference
 - ***Recognizing CLM, Lay Speakers, and Confirmands***
 - ***Farewell to Retirees***
 - ***Special Thank You Gift from DS All Attendees***

BISHOP'S TIME WITH THE CONNECTICUT DISTRICT

Monday, May 5 , 2025 at 6:00 PM

First UMC (Meriden)

159 East Main Street, Meriden, CT 06450



**BISHOP THOMAS J.
BICKERTON**

**RESIDENT BISHOP
NEW YORK AREA**



**REV. DR. ALPHER
SYLVESTER**

**THE CONNECTICUT
DISTRICT
SUPERINTENDENT**

Gather with us for Bishop's Time with The Connecticut District!

**Come and be a part of a special time of information sharing, fellowship, inspiration,
and connection as we gather for Bishop's Time with the Connecticut District.**

This is the opportunity to understand the vision for our journey ahead.

Date: Monday, May 5th, 2025 @ 6:00 PM ET

Location: Meriden First UMC 159 East Main Street, Meriden, CT 06450

Agenda:

- **6:00 PM - 7:00 PM** Dinner with musical accompaniment- *New Room Ensemble*
- **7:00 PM - 7:30 PM** A time of worship & affirmation and *Mid-State/New Room Choir*
- **7:30 PM - 8:30 PM** Bishop Thomas J. Bickerton
- **8:30 PM - 9:00 PM** Short Closing Worship with Communion
- **9:00 PM** Departure

Food Bank News

Our local food bank is associated with Connecticut Food Share and is able to purchase food at a reduced price. Unfortunately, recent cuts to funding from the Department of Agriculture in the Local Good Purchase Assistance program will affect the availability of food to purchase.

In the meantime, the food bank clientele has increased over the years.

In March 2025 we served 52 families (109 individuals).

In March 2024 we served 27 families (72 individuals).

In March 2023 we served 17 families (28 individuals).

The Food Bank is in great need of help from all of us,

If you are able to help fill the shelves and feed our neighbors, it would be greatly appreciated.

You may leave donations of food in the narthex on Sunday mornings or place monetary donations in the collection plate in an envelope marked Food Bank. Checks should be made out to The Community Food Bank

Food Bank Wishlist

Rice or pasta side dishes, solid white tuna, canned tomatoes, canned baked beans

No time to shop for the food bank?? Donations can be made here:

<https://www.paypal.com/ncp/payment/J36KTCUVNFYRY>



Gospels for May

May 4: John 21:1-19
 May 11: John 10:22-30
 May 18: John 13:31-35
 May 25: John 14:23-29

May Schedule

	<u>Cleaners</u>	<u>Lectors</u>	<u>Ushers</u>
May 4 May 11 May 18 May 25	Barbara Sherwin Barbara Sherwin Volunteers Needed Volunteers Needed	Sandy Taylor Jennifer Lambour Steve Bailey John Baum	Steven Shaw & Judy McKay Steve & Barb Bailey Sandy Slemmer & Janet LaGrange Barbara Sherwin & Shirley Green
	<u>Greeters</u>		<u>Coffee Hour</u>
May 4 May 11 May 18 May 25	John Lundy & Jay LaGrange John Lundy & Jay LaGrange John Lundy & Jay LaGrange John Lundy & Jay LaGrange		Volunteers Needed Angela Root Volunteers Needed Stephanie & Pat
		<u>Counters</u>	
May 4 May 11 May 18 May 25		Jennifer Lambour & Steve Bailey Barbara Bailey & Jennifer Lambour Steve Bailey & John Lundy John Lundy & Wayne Roberts	

As you can see by the calendar, we are in need of volunteers for Coffee Hour and Cleaning. Sign up sheets are in the Narthex on the Besse table.



shutterstock.com · 1718010994

May

<u>SUN.</u>	<u>MON.</u>	<u>TUES.</u>	<u>WED.</u>	<u>THUS.</u>	<u>FRI.</u>	<u>SAT.</u>
				1 2:00 – 4:00PM Food Bank 6:45PM AA	2	3
4 10:00AM Worship Service with Holy Communion	5	6 10:00AM Prayer Group 8:00PM AA	7	8 6:45PM AA	9	10
11 10:00AM Worship Service 	12 10:00AM Yoga with Lorna 4:00 – 7:00PM Food Bank	13 10:00AM Prayer Group 7:00PM Admin./Finance Meeting 8:00PM AA	14 9:00AM – Noon Scrapbooking with Carolyn	15 2:00 – 4:00PM Food Bank 6:45PM AA	16	17
18 10:00AM Worship Service 11:15AM Trustees Meeting	19 10:00AM Yoga with Lorna	20 10:00AM Prayer Group 8:00PM AA	21	22 6:45PM AA	23	24
25 10:00AM Worship Service	26  Memorial DAY	27 10:00AM Prayer Group 4:00 – 7:00PM Food Bank 8:00PM AA	28 9:00AM – Noon Scrapbooking with Carolyn	29 2:00 – 4:00PM Food Bank 6:45PM AA	30	31

****Lorna Delaney is going to have Yoga classes again. There are two scheduled for May and three scheduled for June. Lorna is asking for a \$5.00 donation per class. Any money collected will be donated to the Church for the new landscaping.**

May Announcements

The May/June issue of the Upper Room is available on the Bessie Table. At this time only the small print version is available. There is no charge for these.

The annual Christmas Fair is scheduled for early November, which seems very far away, but it takes time to create the many arts and crafts that we need to sell
Many hands and many talents are needed. if you craft, knit, or do woodcraft, please begin to create you wares

Pastor Barbara will be on vacation from May 19th through May 26th. She will be back in the office on Tuesday, May 27th. Jay Andrews, who is a lay speaker from Torrington UMC, will be covering worship. Pastor Barbara will be available for any emergencies.

~~~~~

If you know of someone who is not getting the Link but would like to, please contact Re with their information and email address so they can be added to the list. If they don't have access to emails, just give us their mailing address and we will mail it out to them. We will also leave a few copies on the Bessie table.

If you, or someone you know, is in the hospital in need of a visit please call either Pastor Barbara or the Church office to schedule a visit. Because of privacy laws, hospitals can no longer give out this information

\*\*\*\*\*

Church office hours are Monday, Tuesday, and Friday from 9:00AM to Noon. If there is a Monday holiday, office hours for that week will be Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday from 9:00AM to Noon.

Pastor Barbara will be in the office Monday and Tuesday from 9:30AM to 1:00PM, or by appointment.

Church contact info:

Visit us online at: [pleasantvalley-umc.com](http://pleasantvalley-umc.com)

Church Office: 860-379-2157

Church Kitchen and Food Bank: 860-379-0346

Church email address: [pvumc181@gmail.com](mailto:pvumc181@gmail.com)

Pastor Barbara's email: [barb\\_drew@hotmail.com](mailto:barb_drew@hotmail.com)

Pastor Barbara's phone number: 203-623-3754