

COLUMNS

First Congregational Church East Hartford, Connecticut
Over 300 Years of Ministry!



May 2013

Sunday Schedule

May 5 *Sixth Sunday of Easter*
10:00 a.m. **Morning Worship & Sunday School**
Rededication of the Chapel



May 12 *Seventh Sunday of Easter*
Mother's Day
10:00 a.m. **Morning Worship & Sunday School**
11:30 a.m. **Library Committee**
3:00 p.m. **Koinonia II**

May 19 *Pentecost*
10:00 a.m. **Morning Worship with Communion & Sunday School**
11:30 a.m. **Board of Missions**
11:30 a.m. **JYF**
2:00 p.m. **Paul Bisaccia Piano Concert followed by a reception**
7:00 p.m. **Koinonia I**

May 26 Memorial Day Weekend
10:00 a.m. **Family Worship**
No Sunday School
11:15 a.m. **Historical Committee**

The **Senior Choir** rehearses each Wednesday evening at 7:00 p.m. and on Sunday morning at 8:45a.m. unless otherwise notified.

Children's & Youth Choir rehearses immediately following morning worship on Sundays (11:00-11:15 a.m.) unless otherwise announced.

Sunday School News

May 5, May 12 and May 19
Children will begin in worship before going to their classes

May 26 - Memorial Day Weekend
Family worship with no Sunday School. Child Care is available for children age 5 and under.

Junior Youth Fellowship

JYF is a youth group for students in grades 6-8. We meet on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of each month, 11:30 a.m. -1:00 p.m.

Sunday, May 5 No Meeting

Sunday, May 19 11:30 Last Meeting

FCC's 9th Annual Golf Tournament

Fore! It's that time of year again! The time for First Congregational Church's Annual Golf Tournament! This year's tournament will be held Saturday, May 18 at Topstone Golf Course in South Windsor, CT. Everyone is invited to participate as a tournament sponsor, a hole sponsor, a dinner



GOLF DAY

sponsor, a golfer, or by attending the delicious dinner. The day begins at 9:00 a.m. with registration for the golfers, and dinner will be served at 4:30 p.m. We will have raffle drawings and Hole Challenge awards. Don't miss this exciting event!

Please contact *Val McCarthy* at 860-290-8432 or email vbmccarthy@comcast.net, with any questions.



Saturday, May 11

Flea Market

Rummage Sale

Can & Bottle Drive



Coffee Hour - Everyone is invited to Coffee hour following worship. Members of the by the members of **W.E.B.** are serving for the month of May. Please be generous with your donations to the *Coffee Fund* in the basket on the table in the dining room.



Silver Lake

There are still some openings at Silver Lake, the summer camp sponsored by the United Church of Christ in Sharon, CT. One week summer conferences are available for children entering grades 4 through 12. There is a wide variety of themes from which to choose. Scholarships are available. Please see *Louise Holmes* for a booklet and more information.



High School Seniors Post Secondary Students!

Scholarship applications have been mailed. If you did not receive one and would like to, call the church office. Completed applications must be received in the church office no later than **May 5!**

The **Board of Christian Education** will meet on Tuesday, May 28 at 7:00

The **Board of Deaconesses** will meet Monday, May 6 at 1:00 p.m.

The **Board of Deacons** will meet Monday, May 13 at 7:00 p.m.

The **Board of Stewardship** will meet Thursday, May 9 at 6:30 p.m.

The **Board of Trustees** will meet Tuesday, May 21 at 7:00 p.m.

W.E.B.

Women Empowered and Blessed is a group comprised of all women of the church.

W.E.B. will meet Thursday, May 16 at 6:15 p.m.

Library Committee will meet Sunday, May 12 at 11:15 a.m.

Standing Committee will meet Thursday, May 23 at 7:00 p.m.



To all Boards, Committees and Groups

Before you begin your summer activities; I would appreciate an updated meeting schedule for the six month calendar. Please let me know of any special dates or events you may want included. Thank you for your timely response. *Louise Holmes*

Jubilee Sunday - June 2, 2013 at 10:00 a.m. A celebration of those who, this year have been members of any Christian church for a combined total of fifty years. If you first joined another church on or before 1963 and have not celebrated your jubilee at First Church, we would like to honor you along with our First Church fifty-year members. For recognition on *Jubilee Sunday*, please contact the church office or see *Kathy Cattanach*, Chairman of the Board of Deacons.

Roof Fund Sunday is the first Sunday of every month. You will find white envelopes marked **Roof Fund** in the pews in which monetary donations may be made. All donations are gratefully accepted.

From the Pastor's Pen

Where do we, you and I, see God?

“Namaste” is a way of greeting another person which roughly translated means, “in you, I see God.” As I write this, I have been with you as Interim Pastor just a couple of weeks and I can honestly report that as I am, “getting to know you, getting to know all about you” I am truly seeing God in your hearts and lives.

I am impressed with the ways you love one another, with the generosity of your living, and with the kindness you offer one another, so greet you, “Namaste.”

I love this way of thinking, as we greet one another we acknowledge that we are seeing God. It works pretty well until real life intervenes and I encounter someone who has injured me, or with whom I am momentarily annoyed, or is a bit of scam artist, or whatever. Then I find it much more difficult to look at that individual and see God.

The goal is to always see God, love and honor God in one another.

And when I don't?

That is why we have individual and communal prayers of confession. “I have not loved as you would have us love. Please forgive me. . . . Thank you.” We are forgiven. Such is the loving way of our God.

Amen and Blessings,
Pastor Alice
revalice@aol.com



Church Library

Focus on Family

"Honor thy father and thy mother."

Mother's Day Father's Day
May 12 June 16

Children's Day
June 9

Mother's Day, Father's Day, and Children's Day, are Sunday's in May and June to honor these family members. Also, your church library celebrates many family occasions and relationships. The church library displays a selection of special day books to borrow.

SAVE THE DATE

October 5, 2013
Bus trip to NYC
New York on your own!
\$36.00

Stewardship Moment

Stewardship Stars – May 2013

A church is only as good as its congregation. We are fortunate to have awesome members who are not afraid to assume responsibility to keep us on track. The Board of Stewardship would like to recognize the officers of the church who accept the mantle of leadership to preside over church meetings, to record the minutes of our meetings for posterity and to pay the bills.

Chuck Holmes and Howard Satalino, moderator and assistant moderator, not only lead meetings of the entire congregation, they run Standing Committee meetings also. Should we find ourselves without a Pastor, it would be up to the moderator to form an ad hoc committee to see to the administration of the church. Jayne Apel and Tricia Andrulot record the events at these meetings as well as maintain membership records.

Donna and Lauren Basler have the distinct honor of paying the bills and balancing the check book. If you struggle with these tasks at home, imagine how much more difficult it is to tie in the many threads that make up church finances.

God delights in our gifts of time and talent as well as our gifts of treasure. We can't help but think that God is smiling brightly when he looks at these six incredible people. Thank you Chuck, Howard, Jayne, Tricia, Donna and Lauren for all you do for God and our church.

Stock Sale

The Senior High Youth are selling stock in their Mission Work Camp trip this summer to Norristown PA. They will aid in repairs to the homes of senior citizens, people with disabilities, and financially struggling residents. Stock shares will be on sale from any PYF member through June 16. Each share of stock costs ten dollars. Everyone who purchases at least one share will receive:

A personal postcard written by a work camper during the work camp week.

An invitation to a "Stockholders Only" fall banquet where pictures and reports of the work camp effort will be shared.

The love and appreciation of the senior high young people participating in this year's adventure in Christian mission.

The satisfaction of supporting teenagers in their efforts to repair and maintain the homes of people in need as well as supporting the spiritual development of the teenagers themselves.

Visit the display table in the dining room during coffee hour!!



E-mail addresses:

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Church Office: 860-528-3133

Fax Number: 860-528-3220

Website: www.ChurchCorners.org

Interim Pastor: *Rev. Alice L. O'Donovan*

Pastor Emeritus: *Rev. William E. Flynn*

Director of C.E.: *Mrs. Louise R. Holmes*

Director of Music: *Mr. Jerry K. Scheinfeldt*

Church Secretary: *Ms. Thory Donofrio*

Treasurer: *Mrs. Donna L. Basler*

Assistant treasurer: *Mrs. Lauren A. Basler*

Sexton: *Mr. Dennis J. McCarthy*

EHIM

East Hartford Interfaith Ministries

Human Needs Fund Office

Beth Harlow, Coordinator

(860) 289-4919

Holiday Village Fair

Saturday November 23

Guess what's only 6 months away?

Our Holiday Village Fair!!

Yes, it is 6 months away, but think about how fast the last 6 months went by. All of our favorite booths will be returning. And of course there will be good food all day long.

Fair Craft Nights – the 1st Monday of every month – Lorraine's house– 6:30 - 8:30

The **Gift Basket booth** is one of our biggest money makers in the fair. Keep your eyes open for small unique or themed items that can be put in a basket. Want to use the 40% off coupons from the craft store? We need ribbon – lots of ribbon, preferably wired and fall or winter colors to make those 100+ bows needed for the baskets. Coupons can also be used to purchase the cellophane gift basket bags that we use. Cards with basket suggestions are available on the piano will be the dining room.

We need homemade jams and jellies. Pickles, Beets, Applesauce and Corn Relishes will also go great in the **Country Store**.

It's time to start working on your pet projects for the **Hand-made booth**. Scarves, matching mittens, etc. are in vogue. Place mats, pillows, afghans, and

Christmas Boutique can always use wreath forms, ribbon, silk greenery, unique items for an arrangement. Have any ideas, contact Lorraine Trinks. Always remember **Grandma's Attic**.

*All Women of
First Congregational Church*
are cordially invited to the Annual Women's Lunch at

Savvi's Restaurant
1555 Main St East Hartford

Sunday, June 9
12:00 – 2 p.m.

Chicken Parmesan with Penne Pasta \$23.00

Broiled Filet of Sole with Salad, Potato & Vegetable
\$21.00

Lasagna and Salad \$16.00

Chef Salad \$11.00

Philly Cheese Steak Wrap, French Fries or Salad
(am cheese, onions, peppers, mushrooms)
\$13.00

Dinner includes: beverage, bread, dessert, and tip

Please return with payment to
Louise Holmes by June 2.

Checks payable to:
First Congregational Church noting "Women's lunch"