

*Old Greenwich,
Connecticut*

THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL
CHURCH OF GREENWICH

*United Church
of Christ*

Founded in 1665

The Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

20 June 2010

10 o'clock in the morning



We welcome all who join in worship with us today – at the beach, in the meetinghouse or by radio or internet.

As an open and inclusive people, all are welcome. Today we remember fathers and families – we welcome the coming summer. Our lesson from Galatians tells us of an equal in Christ. There are no walls of division. Our Luke lesson tells us how Jesus demonstrated deliverance for the most distressed and the cost.

May we hear the word as it speaks to us today.

PREPARING FOR WORSHIP

*All who are able please stand

‡Seating of latecomers

PRELUDE
Lied (Song)

John Stansell, organ
Louis Vierne

CALL TO COMMUNITY
Please sign and pass the red book.

Rev. Mark D. Montgomery

PRAISING GOD

CALL TO WORSHIP

***‡OPENING HYMN AND PROCESSION**

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

New Century Hymnal 1

OPENING PRAYER *(In Unison)*

Eternal God,

Companion of all who seek you,

and seeker of all who turn away,

Draw near to us

that we may draw near to you,

And grant us the grace to love and serve you,

That we may find in your will

our true freedom and salvation;

Through Jesus Christ,

The way, the truth, and the life. Amen.

CONFESSING TO GOD

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

My faith prays to you, Lord, this faith which you gave me, and with which you inspired me, through the incarnation of your Son.

...Oh, that I might find rest and peace in you!

Oh, that you would come into my heart and so inebriate it, that I would forget my own evils, and embrace my one and only good, which is you!

...My soul's house is narrow for you to enter; will you not make it broader? It is in a state of collapse; will you not rebuild it? It contains things which must offend your eyes; this I know and I admit. But who will make it clean? To whom shall I cry, except you?

...Lord, cleanse me from my secret faults, and spare me from the power of the enemy. I believe, and therefore do I speak, Lord. Amen.

(The Confessions, St. Augustine)

LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

‡Congregational Response

Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.

As the response begins, the children will go with Rosemary Lamie to the Undercroft for Summer Church School.

HEARING GOD'S WORD

FIRST LESSON

Olga Hartwell

Luke 8:26-39

Then they arrived at the country of the Gerasenes, which is opposite Galilee. As he stepped out on land, a man of the city who had demons met him. For a long time he had worn no clothes, and he did not live in a house but in the tombs. When he saw Jesus, he fell down before him and shouted at the top of his voice, 'What have you to do with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I beg you, do not torment me'— for Jesus had commanded the unclean spirit to come out of the man. (For many times it had seized him; he was kept under guard and bound with chains and shackles, but he would break the bonds and be driven by the demon into the wilds.) Jesus then asked him, 'What is your name?' He said, 'Legion'; for many demons had entered him. They begged him not to order them to go back into the abyss.

Now there on the hillside a large herd of swine was feeding; and the demons begged Jesus to let them enter these. So he gave them permission. Then the demons came out of the man and entered the swine, and the herd rushed down the steep bank into the lake and was drowned.

When the swineherds saw what had happened, they ran off and told it in the city and in the country. Then people came out to see what had happened, and when they came to Jesus, they found the man from whom the demons had gone sitting at the feet of Jesus, clothed and in his right mind. And they were afraid. Those who had seen it told them how the one who had been possessed by demons had been healed. Then all the people of the surrounding country of the Gerasenes asked Jesus to leave them; for they were seized with great fear. So he got into the boat and returned. The man from whom the demons had gone begged that he might be with him; but Jesus sent him away, saying, 'Return to your home, and declare how much God has done for you.' So he went away, proclaiming throughout the city how much Jesus had done for him.

SCRIPTURE ANTHEM

Send Out Thy Light
(text from Psalm 43)

The Summer Choir
Charles Gounod

Galatians 3:23-29

Now before faith came, we were imprisoned and guarded under the law until faith would be revealed. Therefore the law was our disciplinarian until Christ came, so that we might be justified by faith. But now that faith has come, we are no longer subject to a disciplinarian, for in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith. As many of you as were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus. And if you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's offspring, heirs according to the promise.

*‡HYMN

In Christ There Is No East or West *New Century Hymnal 394*

SERMON

Bound or Free?

Rev. Avery Manchester

RESPONDING TO GOD

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

A New Creed

Leader: *We are not alone, we live in God's world.*

People: We believe in God:

who has created and is creating,
 who has come in Jesus, the Word made flesh,
 to reconcile and make new,
 who works in us and others by the Spirit.

We trust in God.

We are called to be the Church:

to celebrate God's presence, to love and serve others,
 to seek justice and resist evil, to proclaim Jesus,
 crucified and risen, our judge and our hope.

In life, in death, in life beyond death, God is with us.

We are not alone. Thanks be to God.

*Gloria

New Century (black) Hymnal 754

*Glory to God the Creator, and to the Christ, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever.
 Amen. Amen.*

*A FATHER'S DAY PRAYER

Silent prayers may follow each petition

For our fathers, who have given us life and love,
that we may show them respect and love, we pray to the Lord...

For fathers who have lost a child through death, that their faith
may give them hope, and their family and friends support and
console them, we pray to the Lord...

For men, though without children of their own, who like fathers
have nurtured and cared for us, we pray to the Lord...

For fathers, who have been unable to be a source of strength,
who have not responded to their children and have not sustained
their families, we pray to the Lord...

God our Father, in your wisdom and love you made all things.

Bless these men, that they may be strengthened as Christian
fathers. Let the example of their faith and love shine forth.

Grant that we, their sons and daughters, may honor them always
with a spirit of profound respect.

Grant this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

CALL TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

The Summer Choir

Make Me a Captive, Lord

Ronald Turner

Make me a captive, Lord, And then I shall be free;
Force me to render up my sword, And I shall conqueror be;
I sink in life's alarms When by myself I stand;
Imprison me within thine arms, And strong shall be my hand.

My heart is weak and poor Until it master find;
It has no spring of action sure, It varies wildly with the wind;
It cannot freely move Till thou hast wrought its chain;
Enslave it with thy matchless love, And deathless it shall reign.

My heart is not my own Till thou has made it thine;
If it would reach the monarch's throne It must its crown resign;
It only stands unbent, Amid the clashing strife,
When on thy bosom it has leaned, And found in thee its life.
(George Matheson, 1890)

***Doxology**

New Century (black) Hymnal 776

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise Christ, all creatures here below; Praise Holy Spirit, Comforter; One God, Triune, whom we adore. Amen. Amen.

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

GOING FORTH TO SERVE GOD

***CLOSING HYMN AND PROCESSION**

Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah

Pilgrim Hymnal 93

***CLOSING SENTENCES**

Leader: Here may the faithful find salvation and the careless be awakened.

People: Here may the doubting find faith and the anxious be encouraged.

Leader: Here may the tempted find help and the sorrowful comfort.

People: Here may the weary find rest and the strong be renewed.

***BENEDICTION**

***BENEDICTION RESPONSE**

POSTLUDE

Postlude

Louis Vierne

The First Congregational Church of Greenwich declares itself to be open and affirming; open to all for participation, membership, leadership and employment, and affirming of all who wish to join us as children of God. We continue to give thanks for God's guidance in our journey of faith.

We have **child care for babies and toddlers** every Sunday in the Preschool area. Your children are always welcome for the entire service or for a respite time if needed. Please see an usher if you need directions.

The 10:00 am Service is broadcast live each week on WGCH 1490 AM Radio. In addition, the service is available through the church's website, www.fccog.org. A bulletin can be found there as well as a link to the live broadcast. Previous sermons may also be found there.

Call to Special Congregational Meeting

A special meeting of the congregation is hereby called for Sunday, July 18 following the 10 am Worship Service. The meeting will be held in the Meetinghouse:

- to hear and act upon the recommendation of the Associate Pastor Search Committee to call a new Associate Pastor of Christian Education
- and to transact such other business as may properly come before the meeting.

Phoebe Griffith,
Church Clerk

Calendar

TODAY

Church School

Summer Church School, a multiage one room classroom of 4 through 10 year olds, continues today. Younger children are welcome in Child Care and older children are invited to come as helpers. We continue through the end of July except 4th of July weekend.

Parish Nurse

Sue Asselin, RN, is available in Room 203 after the Worship Service. Stop in to have your blood pressure checked or discuss any health concerns.

NEXT SUNDAY

David Young will be preaching. His sermon is "*For Thine is the Kingdom*".

With prayers of thanksgiving for the past and hope for the future, we will mark our Music Director John Stansell's last Sunday before his retirement during worship on June 27. David Young's sermon entitled "For Thine is the Kingdom" will bring a belated close to our sermon series on the Lord's Prayer and reassure us that all is in God's hands. Arrive before 9:45 to hear the last installment of John's presentation of Mendelssohn's Six Sonatas for

Organ, this time Sonata I. Combined and augmented Chancel, Youth and Children's Choirs will add a festive note to the service. Afterward there will be a reception to honor John. The Music Committee will provide sandwiches, fruits and a celebratory cake and best wishes from several friends. Expect tears and laughter to be in abundance.

Many professional and amateur singers who have sung with John Stansell over his tenure here at First Congregational will be joining the choir next Sunday. Carolyn Diamond and Mark Swicegood will be organists. There will be a rehearsal this Thursday evening at 7:30 in the Meetinghouse. If you would like to be part of this chorus, speak to John after the service this morning, or call him during the week at 203-637-1791, ext. 22. We need to be sure there are enough chairs!

NEWS AND NOTICES

Join the Summer Choir

There's no weeknight rehearsal during the summer. Rather the choir meets Sunday mornings for a 9:00 am warm-up and rehearsal in the Meetinghouse. Adults and youth are welcome. It's a great time to see if choir is right for you. You can even come just to the rehearsal, if you feel you're not quite "ready for prime time." Scores for the next week's anthems will be found on the cabinet outside the Choir Room on the third floor, and learning files to help singers with their parts will be found on the website, www.fccog.org under Music/Choir Learning Files.

Summer Beach Services

These services begin at 8 am at Tod's Point every Sunday of the summer except August 1st. See our website, www.fccog.org, for more information.

Women's Fellowship Summer Tai Chi Classes

Tai Chi with Luis Duarte will be held on Thursdays (only) at 8:30 a.m. in June, July, and August. The June session is \$28 for four classes--(only \$7 a class). In addition to his wonderful variety of exercises, Luis will be focusing his June session on techniques that may help to reduce the symptoms of and/or prevent arthritis. Come join this special group and bring friends.

Church Office Summer Hours

Our weekday office hours from June 1 to September 7 will be 9am to 3pm. Volunteer receptionists will be on duty during those hours. Of course, you can leave a voice mail message at any time of day or night.

Nights Off

Nights Off, the Women's Fellowship's evening group, will meet on Monday, June 21st, 6 p.m. at Greenwich Point in the picnic area on the path beyond the Chimes Building. Bring a beverage and a snack to share. This is a great opportunity for fellowship and getting to know other women church members. In case of inclement weather, we will meet at the home of Lucy Hedrick, 29 Sound Beach Avenue. If you do not have a beach pass, or for more information, contact Karen Young at (203) 637-7877 or klyct1@aol.com.

Church School T-shirts

Free T-shirts are still available for all church school children in all sizes. If you have not received yours, they will be available at coffee hour.

Church School Teaching Teams 2010-2011

BABY NURSERY

1. Mary Helen Morris
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
5. (HS)
6. (HS)

TODDLER NURSERY

1. Janette Hoekstra
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
5. (HS) Esther Hoekstra
6. (HS)
Duly Chiapetta - Supervisor

THREE-YEAR-OLDS

1. Chris Schoen
2. Lori Romano
3. Jennifer McCue Pratt
4. Cheryl Manos
5. (HS) Emily Brash
6. (HS) Olivia Thalheim?

FOUR-YEAR-OLDS

1. Cara Olmsted
2. Jane Finch
3. Dianne Shrier
4. Peg Wentworth
5. (HS) Jenna Hascher
6. (HS)

As of June 10, 2010

KINDERGARTEN

1. Fred & Nanette Laffan
2. Connie & Matthew VanRhyne
- 3.
- 4.
5. (HS) Avery Welch
6. (HS) Ingrid Thalheim

FIRST GRADE

1. Lindy & Randy Freeman
2. Cindy Fong
3. Christina & Michael Russell
4. Lisa Hudson
5. (HS) Gwen Pfetsch
6. (HS)

SECOND GRADE

1. Bonny Edwards
2. Colleen Alfano
- 3.
- 4.
5. (HS) Shaw Speer
6. (HS) Will Graham

THIRD GRADE

1. Kristin Taylor
2. Beth Press & Mark Mohn
3. Kellie Norrgard
4. Greg Kuppenheimer
5. (HS) Lindsey Hascher
6. (HS) Haley & Kelsey Norrgard

FOURTH GRADE

1. Marjorie Glover
2. Peter Gurciullo (Dec-June)
- 3.
- 4.
5. (HS)
6. (HS)

FIFTH GRADE

1. Peter Thalheim
2. Charles Ariyibi
- 3.
- 4.
5. (HS)
6. (HS)

PASTORS' CLASS (6th, 7th, 8th)

1. Anne Pfetsch
2. Fred Lorthioir
3. Olga Hartwell
- 4.
5. (HS) Charlie Baird
6. (HS) Courtney Griffin

(HS) High School Student

The First Congregational Church of Greenwich

108 Sound Beach Avenue, Old Greenwich, Connecticut, 06870

203-637-1791

www.fccog.org

Ministers: Members of The First Congregational Church of Greenwich

Senior Pastor: Rev. Dr. David D. Young

Associate Pastor for Youth Ministry: Rev. Mark D. Montgomery

Minister of Communication and Adult Education: Rev. Daniel B. England

Minister of Pastoral Care: Rev. Avery C. Manchester

Director of Music/Senior Organist: Dr. John Stansell

Interim Director of Music: Mark Swicegood

Director of Church School: Rosemary Lamie

Director of Membership: Ginny Breismeister

Parish Nurse: Susan Asselin, RN

Pastors Emeriti: Rev. Dr. Thomas L. Stiers and Rev. Sally Colegrove