

*Old Greenwich,
Connecticut*

**THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL
CHURCH OF GREENWICH**

*United Church
of Christ*

Founded in 1665

The First Sunday after Pentecost

19 June 2011

10 o'clock in the morning



Father's Day

WE WELCOME each of you to this worship service on Father's Day. Today we honor and celebrate our connection in families as we give thanks for the men in our lives, who have been, or are, fathers. May this be a day of joyous memory mingled with hope and anticipation for all that lies ahead as, together, we walk into the future as God's children.

PREPARING FOR WORSHIP

Please silence all cell phones and other electronic devices.

*All who are able please stand

‡Seating of latecomers

PRELUDE

Petit Prelude

Dr. Craig Scott Symons, organ

Joseph Jongen

CALL TO COMMUNITY

Please sign and pass the red book.

Rev. Mark D. Montgomery

PRAISING GOD

CALL TO WORSHIP

***‡OPENING HYMN AND PROCESSION**

This Is My Father's World

Pilgrim (red) Hymnal 485

OPENING PRAYER

Our Father and Creator, long ago you anointed a shepherd-boy king. Then you came to us at Bethlehem as a helpless, little baby boy. Though he was the Son of David, he was born unnoticed. Yet he grew up to be the great spiritual shepherd of our souls and the guardian of your children. In every part of our worship today help our lips to be the lips of children, spontaneous, uncomplicated and unreserved in our love for you, simply because Jesus loves us now and forever. Amen.

CONFESSING TO GOD

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION *(In Unison)*

Dear God, we confess that we are often no better than noisy and obstreperous children, willful, pushy and disobedient. We resent the discipline of your rod and staff even though they are meant to guide, protect and comfort us. Yet in your great love, like a shepherd lifting and carrying wayward lambs, you scoop us up in your arms, and cancel our recalcitrance with a word, you who are yourself the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world. Thus are we everlastingly bound to you through our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ who taught us to pray,

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.

HEARING GOD'S WORD

FIRST LESSON

Peter Schay

Psalm 103:1-5 & 11-14

Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless his holy name. Bless the Lord, O my soul, and do not forget all his benefits—who forgives all your iniquity, who heals all your diseases, who redeems your life from the Pit, who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy, who satisfies you with good as long as you live so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's. For as the heavens are high above the earth, so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him; as far as the east is from the west, so far he removes our transgressions from us. As a father has compassion for his children,

so the Lord has compassion for those who fear him. For he knows how we were made; he remembers that we are dust.

SCRIPTURE ANTHEM

Let Us With a Gladsome Mind

The Summer Choir

Alan Ridout

SECOND LESSON

Ephesians 6:1-4

Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. “Honor your father and mother” — this is the first commandment with a promise: “so that it may be well with you and you may live long on the earth.” And, fathers, do not provoke your children to anger, but bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord.

*‡HYMN

Father Almighty, Bless Us

New Century (black) Hymnal 518

(As the hymn begins, the Church School children will leave for Summer Church School with Rosemary who will gather them in the narthex.)

SERMON: “*A Father’s Day Letter*”

Dr. David D. Young

RESPONDING TO GOD

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want.

He makes me lie down in green pastures;

He leads me beside still waters;

He restores my soul.

He leads me in right paths for his name’s sake.

Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I fear no evil;
for you are with me; your rod and your staff— they comfort me.

You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;
you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,
and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord my whole life long.

***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.*

CALL TO PASTORAL PRAYER

PASTORAL PRAYER

CALL TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

There's a Wideness in God's Mercy

The Summer Choir
Lee Dengler

***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**

Our God, Our Help in Ages Past

Pilgrim (red) Hymnal 1

***CLOSING SENTENCES**

*Leader: What the father has made, the son can make and enjoy,
but he has also work of his own appointed to him.*

*People: Thus, all things wax and roll onward –
arts, establishments, opinions;
nothing is ever completed but completing.*

*Leader: Let others know by your deeds
who your ancestors were.*

*People: Wisdom is gained only as we stand upon
the shoulders of those who have gone before.*

Japanese Proverb, Thomas Carlyle, Judge Learned Hand

*BENEDICTION

*BENEDICTION RESPONSE

POSTLUDE

Trumpet Tune in D major

Flor Peeters

The flowers in the Meetinghouse this morning are given in loving memory of Charles Boudreau by his wife and daughters.

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. 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.

Calendar

TODAY

Church School

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

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.

THIS WEEK

Faith Formation

Faith Formation Committee will be meeting tomorrow *Monday, June 20* from 6:30 - 8:00 pm in the Lounge.

Nights Off

Nights Off will meet tomorrow *Monday, June 20* at 6:00 pm at Greenwich Point in the first picnic area past the Chimes Building along the shore. In case of bad weather, we will gather at the home of Lucy Hedrick at 29 Sound Beach Avenue. If you do not have a beach pass or need further information, please contact Karen Young at 203-637-7877 or klyct1@aol.com. All church women are welcome and we would love to see you there!

NEXT WEEK

Visioning – June 26

Please join us for the second session of The Church Committee's Visioning process, also called *Visioning*, next *Sunday, June 26* from 11:30 am to 1:30 pm. Lunch will be provided. This gathering will be a grass roots, congregationally driven, dynamic and interactive event where we will have the chance to discern the major elements of a new and renewed vision for our church. You are encouraged to attend whether or not you attended the first session. Sign up today at Coffee Hour so that accurate plans can be made for the meal.

NEWS AND NOTICES

Flower Donations

Flowers in the Meetinghouse on Sunday mornings are something we have all come to enjoy. These flowers not only beautify our sanctuary, but are given to honor very special people and occasions in our lives. The reasons for donating flowers are many. In addition to remembering a loved one, you can give flowers in celebration of marriages, anniversaries, baptisms, birthdays, congratulations, and thank you's. Donors can be an individual or a group. After the morning worship has concluded, the blooms are often delivered to

shut-ins, hospitals or other facilities bringing beauty and community to those who cannot be physically present in church. If, however, you prefer to keep the flowers you have donated, please let us know and we will make arrangements for that. Please consider a Sunday when you would like to thank God and honor a special person or a special moment with a gift of flowers. For more information, please contact: Pat Geismar at 203-637-3597; pat.geismar@gmail.com or Susan Murtha at 203-637-1791 x38; smurtha@fccog.org

Beach Services

Beach services have begun for the season at 8:00 am each Sunday down at Greenwich Point (weather permitting). If the beach service is cancelled due to inclement weather, a notice in red will be posted on our website by 7:30 am and a white piece of paper will be taped to the sermon sign on the church lawn.

Summer Work

Need summer help? Need summer work? We are receiving daily calls about job opportunities for yard work, child care, tutoring, errands, etc. We also have high school and college students and recent graduates available to work. Just contact Rosemary at 203-637-1791 ext. 20 or RosemaryL@fccog.org to be connected.

Summer Choir

Have you wanted a different view for the summer? Here is your chance to see things from a different perspective. Each Sunday morning from now until Labor Day, everyone is welcome to join The Summer Choir! Gathering at 9:00 am in the choir loft of the Meetinghouse, we will lift our voices in song as we learn new music that helps lead and inspire worship. No previous experience is necessary, but reading music certainly helps. And if you have college-age or other family members who are in town that have instrumental talents, we can certainly put them to work as well. Don't let your talents sit idle...use them to praise God on Sunday morning!

News from The Rummage Room

June Calendar:

Good summer clothing for women, men and children. Bikes and other summer merchandise are in good supply. Shop hours remain the same in June: open 10:00 am to 5:00 pm Monday through

Friday, and 10:00 am to 1:00 on Saturday. Donation hours are 9:30 am to 4:30 pm Monday through Thursday, and 9:30 am to 12:30 pm on Friday and Saturday.

Manager Maria's Wish List:

Clothing and items for 4th of July. Good, clean clothing; handbags; shoes; jewelry.

July Calendar:

Thursday, July 14, 15 and 16 - Sidewalk Sales. Everything 50% off.

Saturday, July 16 - LAST DAY FOR DONATIONS until August 30, 9:30 am.

Monday, July 25, 26 and 27 - 50% off all merchandise in the shop.

Thursday, July 28, 29 and 30 - Bag Sales. Everything must go.

Saturday, July 30 - Shop closes until August 29, 10:00 am

August Calendar:

REOPENING DAY on Monday, August 29 at 10:00 am. Please do not bring donations until Tuesday, August 30 at 9:30 am.

Happy Father's Day to all the Dads in our Congregation. We will be thinking about all the Dads who have passed on and what they gave to us while they were here.

Food Collection

A reminder that the Food Collection Barrel remains in the back of the Meetinghouse, so please contribute food each week. Adding a few items to your weekly grocery store visit will make a significant difference at Neighbor to Neighbor. Items currently in need are: Cereal, Oatmeal, Pasta Sauce, Dried Beans, 100% Juice, Canned Tomatoes, Peanut Butter (no larger than 28 oz., please), and Jelly. If you've forgotten your food items this morning, feel free to email fccoghungermission@gmail.com with your contact information and someone will pick up the food from your home and deliver to the Church for Neighbor to Neighbor.

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The First Congregational Church of Greenwich

108 Sound Beach Avenue, Old Greenwich, Connecticut, 06870

203-637-1791

www.fccog.org

Ministers: The Members of The First Congregational Church of Greenwich

Senior Pastor: Rev. Dr. David D. Young

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

Associate Pastor for Christian Education: Rev. Susan J. Murtha

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

Minister of Pastoral Care: Rev. Avery C. Manchester

Director of Music: Dr. Craig Scott Symons

Director of Church School: Rosemary Lamie

Director of Membership: Ginny Breismeister

Director of Publications: Barbara Wilkov

Parish Nurse: Susan Asselin, RN

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

Director of Music Emeritus: Dr. John Stansell