

*Old Greenwich,  
Connecticut*

THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL  
CHURCH OF GREENWICH

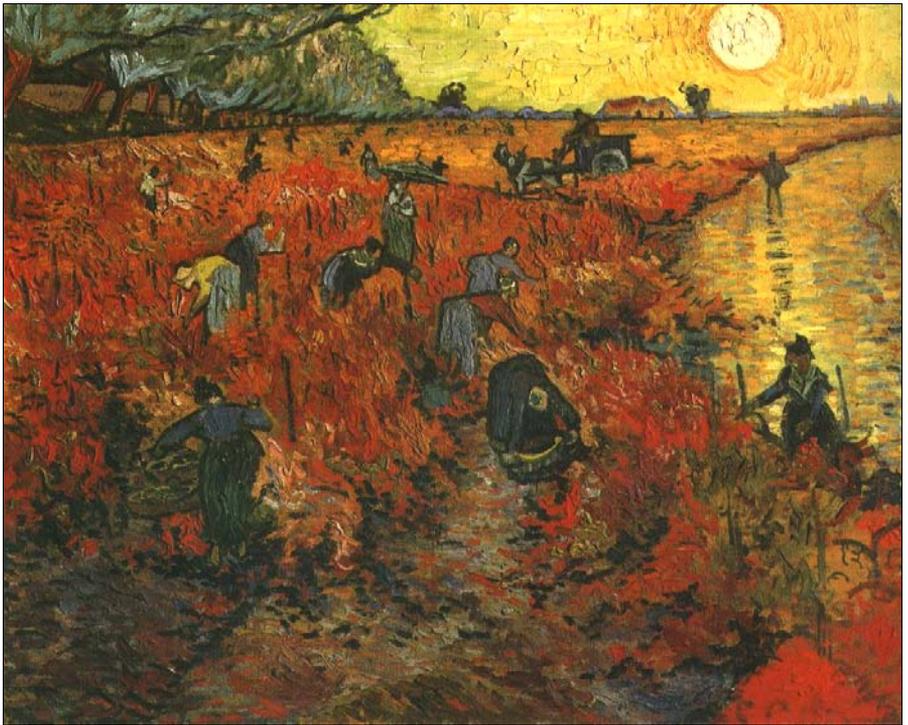
*United Church  
of Christ*

*Founded in 1665*

## The Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

25 September 2011

10 o'clock in the morning



*The Red Vineyard, Vincent van Gogh, 1888*



**W**ELCOME to this Service of Worship at First Congregational Church. May the caring spirit of this portion of Christ's body be contagious – such that you both receive and extend the warmth of this family of faith – for in the words of author, David Viscott:

*To love and be loved is to feel the sun from both sides.*

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### **PREPARING FOR WORSHIP**

Please silence all cell phones and other electronic devices.

\*All who are able please stand

‡Seating of latecomers

#### **PRELUDE**

*Andante and Sortie*

*Dr. Craig Scott Symons, organ*

*Alexander Lefebure-Wely*

#### **CALL TO COMMUNITY**

*Please sign and pass the red book.*

*Dr. David D. Young*

#### **MOMENT OF OPPORTUNITY**

*LINC*

### **PRAISING GOD**

#### **CALL TO WORSHIP**

#### **\*‡OPENING HYMN AND PROCESSION**

*The Church's One Foundation* New Century (black) Hymnal 386

#### **OPENING PRAYER**

God of grace and glory,  
we thank you that you judge us not  
by the perfection of our actions  
but by our readiness to live  
boldly by faith.  
Help us,  
as individuals and as a congregation,  
to trust you and follow where you lead,  
that in Christ your name  
may be glorified in all the earth. Amen.

## CONFESSING TO GOD

### CALL TO CONFESSION

#### PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*In Unison*)

O gracious God, whose Word to us is that we love one another,  
we confess how empty we have been in our loving.

... Feeling the pain in things, we have chosen to protect our  
feelings.

... Seeing the struggle of friends, we have turned our face away to  
honor their privacy.

... Knowing the life to which we have been called in Christ, we  
have been too ready to say that we do not know him.

Forgive us, O God, for running away from who we are!

Come Creator Spirit, that we might be caught up in that life

“in the Spirit” which produces the fruits of love and joy, of  
patience and kindness – those very qualities which marked  
the life of Jesus the Christ and with which we would be  
marked this day.

And so, we pray together...

#### 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

*Olivia Hartwell*

I Corinthians 12:12-13, 26; 13:7

For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and we were all made to drink of one Spirit. If one member suffers, all suffer together with it; if one member is honored, all rejoice together with it. It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

## SCRIPTURE ANTHEM

*The Road Home*

*The Chancel Choir*  
Stephen Paulus

*Tell me, where is the road I can call my own,  
That I left, that I lost so long ago?  
All these years I have wandered, oh when will I know  
There's a way, there's a road that will lead me home?*

*After wind, after rain, when the dark is done,  
As I wake from a dream in the gold of day,  
Through the air there's a calling from far away,  
There's a voice I can hear that will lead me home.*

*Rise up, follow me, come away, is the call,  
With the love in your heart as the only song;  
There is no such beauty as where you belong;  
Rise up, follow me, I will lead you home.*

## SECOND LESSON

*Olga Hartwell*

### John 15:1-12

“I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinegrower. He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and

withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples.

As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete. "This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you.

**\*‡HYMN**

*We Would Be Building*

Pilgrim (red) Hymnal 494

*(As the hymn begins, the Church School children and teachers will leave for their classrooms. Children in second grade and older will leave independently. Children in kindergarten and first grade will meet their teachers at the back of the Meetinghouse (narthex) and will go to their classrooms as a group.)*

**SERMON:** *"Body Building"*

*Dr. David D. Young*

**RESPONDING TO GOD**

**\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

We believe that God was in love with the world  
and could not keep the secret.

The telling of it was creation.

We believe that God's love is constantly being shown  
as creation continues and continues  
every moment of every day.

We believe that Jesus is our window to divinity and  
our mirror of humanity.

Through Jesus we find God's love for us fully revealed,  
and we discover that God's will for us is that we  
love one another in full humanness.

We find God's presence of love with us in the Holy Spirit

which often speaks to us in the voices of other people.  
Therefore, we affirm that openness to God and openness to  
others are two sides of the same coin and that really listening  
to others can help us hear God.  
We believe that God never gives up on us and that  
nothing can separate us from God's love. Alleluia. Amen.

**\*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** *Rev. Avery C. Manchester*

**PASTORAL PRAYER**

**CALL TO OFFERING**

**OFFERTORY** *The Chancel Choir*  
*I Got Shoes* Arr. Alice Parker

**\*Doxology** *New Century 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**  
*Love Divine, All Loves Excelling* New Century (black) Hymnal 43

**\*CLOSING SENTENCES**  
*Leader: Love is the responsibility*  
*Of an I for a Thou. In this lies the likeness –*  
*impossible in any feeling whatsoever – of all who love.*



*of items that might even be considered to be luxurious!). However, the song lyrics go even further than this. The lyricist continues, exclaiming that “everybody talkin' 'bout Heav'n ain't goin' there.” Here, the emphasis is on hypocrisy. The slave master, claiming to be Christian, goes to church every Sunday morning, where he and other congregants talk and sing about Jesus and Heaven. But when he returns to the plantation on Sunday afternoon, he presides over a decidedly un-Heavenly, immoral enterprise, slavery, and participates actively in the un-Heavenly and immoral physical, emotional [...] abuse of other human beings.”*

*Next Week at First Congregational Church*

**World Communion Sunday**

Music by:

The Youth Choir, *Many Gifts, One Spirit* by Allen Pote

The Chancel Choir, *Jesus Said Unto the People* by John Stainer

During Communion:

The Chancel Choir Quartet, *O Pray for the Peace of Jerusalem*

by John Goss

Dr. David D. Young, preaching

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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](http://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.

### **Church School**

Today we begin our *Rock Solid* lessons with the story of Jacob and Esau. Although twins, they were very different and each with their own unique personal gifts. Our children will consider the joy and celebration of our differences as we are all specially made by God. Last Sunday I spoke of our need for more teachers and that need continues (please see the chart at the end of this bulletin for details). Even if you are only able to "sub" or commit to just a few Sundays each season, please contact me at [RosemaryL@fccog.org](mailto:RosemaryL@fccog.org) and we can explore the options together.

### **Youth and Cherub Choir Rehearsals**

Youth Choir will rehearse today from 11:15 am to 12:15 pm in the Choir Room and Cherub Choir will rehearse from 11:15 to 11:45 am in Room 104.

### **Bible Study**

Bible Study starts today at 11:20 am in the Lounge. For the next three weeks, we will be considering the letters of "John," 1st, 2nd and 3rd John. This three week format is designed for people who may not have ventured into this or any other Bible class for a long time and who would like to try it. A study on the Gospel of John will then run for six weeks following this session before a break in the action. Led by one of our pastors, Dan England, the study tries to bring to light the historical context of the books we study as well as their practical application for today. Please join us and see what this is all about.

### **Flu Vaccines Today**

The Wellness Committee will be offering seasonal flu vaccines today from 11:00 am to 12:00 pm (after the 10:00 am service) and from 6:00 pm to 7:00 pm (after the new LINC service). Please bring \$30 cash or check made out to FCCOG. Vaccines will be administered on a first-come, first-served basis to people 18 years of age or older. We are unable to bill insurances, but we can provide a receipt. Individuals under 18 should see their primary physician for the

vaccine. Please call Sue Asselin, Parish Nurse, at extension 21 with any questions.

### **LINC, Our New Additional Worship Service, Starts TODAY!**

Join us today at 5:00 pm in the Auditorium for our new LINC Service. Come in your jeans and t-shirt and experience something completely new. Mark Montgomery will be leading the service.

### **Festival Chorus Begins Rehearsals Tonight**

This evening is the first rehearsal for the First Congregational Church Festival Chorus. Rehearsals are once a month on the last Sunday of the month from 7:00-9:30 pm. Participation in the choir is free and open to the public. Everyone is welcome! These rehearsals are in preparation for our spring performance of Mendelssohn's oratorio *Elijah* on Friday, May 4.

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## **NEXT WEEK**

### **First Music and Arts**

First Music and Arts, our new concert series, will kick off the season on *Friday evening, October 7*, at 8:00 pm with a recital of *Organ PLUS!* Our own organist, Craig Scott Symons, will join with local musical colleagues in an enjoyable evening of music for organ and other instruments, including English horn, piano, voice, cello, flute, trumpet, and trombone. All performances in the series are free, with a free-will offering to help continue this important outreach, and the public is encouraged to attend. We have a great opportunity to share the gift of music with the surrounding community, so please share this information with your friends and neighbors.

### **Red Cross Blood Drive – Saturday, October 8**

This community blood drive, sponsored by Women's Fellowship and the Wellness Committee, runs from 8:00 am to 1:00 pm. Please donate the *Gift of Life* or donate some prepared food. Deviled eggs, finger sandwiches, veggies, or baked goods are all appreciated. Blood donation appointments can be made by calling 1-800-GIVE LIFE (1-800-448-3543). Food contributions can be planned by calling Betsy Kreuter at 203-698-3016. There will also be a sign-up sheet for refreshments at Coffee Hours beginning on September 25.

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## NEWS AND NOTICES

### **Interested in Learning about Joining the Church?**

Our next New Member class will be held on *Sunday, October 23* at 11:15 am in the Lounge. It will last approximately two hours and will include lunch. (Child care will be provided.) During the class, prospective new members have the opportunity to hear about the history and faith of our Congregational denomination, the United Church of Christ, and to learn more about our church and meet the clergy as well as staff. Attending does not obligate you to join but we hope that this time together will strengthen you on the journey of faith. Please feel welcome to join us. We will receive new members on Sunday, November 6 during the 10:00 am Worship Service. For questions or to indicate your interest in attending please contact David Young at [dyoung@fccog.org](mailto:dyoung@fccog.org) or Ginny Breismeister at [ginnyb@fccog.org](mailto:ginnyb@fccog.org).

### **New Website Delayed**

The launch of the newly designed FCCOG website will be delayed for a couple of weeks due to technical issues. Once it is ready to be launched we will let you know so that you can check it out.

### **New Emergency Response Mission Team**

In the wake of Hurricane/Tropical Storm Irene, we would like to put together a new Emergency Response Mission Team for the future. If you are interested in becoming a member of this new mission team, please contact David Young for more information.

### **Tai Chi Classes with Luis Duarte: Thursday Classes Resume!**

Improve your balance, health and well being. Come and experience the many wonderful benefits of Tai Chi and Qi Gong exercises. Classes are held on **Wednesdays** at 8:00 am and **Thursdays** at 9:00 am. Only \$7 per class if paid by the month, and \$8 per class for “drop ins.” Join us! You’ll love it! **All are welcome!**

### **Have You “Liked” FCCOG’s Facebook Page Yet?**

Tell all your friends...FCCOG is on Facebook! Please check out our

page either by going through [fccog.org](http://fccog.org) or search for “First Congregational Church of Greenwich” on Facebook. Be sure to “like” us to stay up to date with all the exciting happenings here at FCCOG!

### News from The Rummage Room

In keeping with the theme last Sunday that “We are family,” The Rummage Room needs volunteers from our family at FCCOG and from the community. To those of you who have sent your children back to school, or find that a few hours have opened up for you this Fall, **we need you!** The Rummage Room has grown by leaps and bounds in the past few years ... which is a great way to raise funds for our mission of helping women and children’s groups in need, but we find that we are doing it with too few volunteers! Please think about donating a couple of hours once a week. It’s not only rewarding to you and for us, but it is a wonderful place to meet our special volunteers, manager Maria, and the assistant managers. Call the Rummage Room tomorrow and ask for Maria (203-637-1875), and become a part of The Rummage Room family.

**Shop hours** are 10:00 am to 5:00 pm Monday through Friday, and on Saturday 10:00 am to 1:00 pm. **Donations accepted** 9:30 am to 4:30 pm Monday through Thursday from 9:30 am to 4:30 pm, and on Friday and Saturday 9:30 am to 12:30 pm. Please, do not leave donations when shop is closed.

**Manager Maria’s Wish List:** Louis Vuitton handbag; other good handbags; small furniture; a tricycle; a child’s scooter; adult and children’s’ bikes.

*God calls us to accept the cost and the joy of being His disciples and volunteers in the service of the whole human family. Let us all do our part to fulfill this call from God! It oftentimes is not easy but we must remember that we have so much!*

### 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)
- Jelly

If you've forgotten your food items this morning, feel free to email [fccoghungermission@gmail.com](mailto: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.



First Congregational Church of *Greenwich*  
**Church School Teaching Teams**  
**2011-2012**

<p><b>Baby Nursery</b>  <b>COMPLETE</b></p> <p>Mary Helen Morris  Chris Collins  Michelle Young  James DeFazio (HS)  Olivia Hartwell (HS)  Melanie Pfetsch (HS)</p>	<p><b>Kindergarten</b>  <i>Need One Adult</i></p> <p>Peg Wentworth  Fred &amp; Nanette Laffan  Kelly Phillips  Jenn Whitehill (HS)  Jenna Hascher (HS)</p>	<p><b>Fourth Grade</b>  <i>Need One HS Teacher</i></p> <p>Emily Ziac  Marjorie Glover  Paula &amp; Brian Mickley  Bert Pulitzer (after 11/1)  Kim Rogers (HS)  Kellie Norrgard (Jan. on)</p>
<p><b>Toddler Nursery</b>  <b>COMPLETE</b></p> <p>Duly Chiappetta –  Supervisor  Dianne Shrier  Larry Haviland  Erlinda Haviland  Colin Ingraham (HS)  Trevor Ingraham (HS)</p>	<p><b>First Grade</b>  <i>Need One Adult and  One HS Teacher</i></p> <p>Sarah Schneider  Connie VanRhyn  Greg Kuppenheimer  Shira Rieke (HS)</p>	<p><b>Fifth Grade</b>  <i>Need Two HS Teachers</i></p> <p>Lindy Freeman  Randy Freeman  Anne Pfetsch  Barbara Fortunato</p>
<p><b>Three-Year-Olds</b>  <i>Need One Adult</i></p> <p>Chris Schoen  Susan Heidere Simko  Jennifer Benoit  Jessie Vissicchio (HS)  James Graham (HS)</p>	<p><b>Second Grade</b>  <i>Need Two Adults</i></p> <p>Pamela &amp; Richard Riggs  Linnea Stenberg  Gwen Pfetsch (HS)  Liz Morris (HS)</p>	<p><b>Sixth Grade</b>  <i>Need One Adult and  One HS Teacher</i></p> <p>Beth Press &amp; Mark  Mohn  Peter Thalheim</p>
<p><b>Four-Year-Olds</b>  <i>Need One HS Teacher</i></p> <p>Cheryl Manos  Jennifer McCue Pratt  Elizabeth Schrohe  Mike Simko  Maddie Graham (HS)</p> <p>As of Sept. 20, 2011</p>	<p><b>Third Grade</b>  <b>COMPLETE</b></p> <p>Colleen Alfano  David Alfano  Lori Romano  Cara Olmsted  Shaw Speer (HS)  Will Graham (HS)</p>	<p><b>Seventh &amp; Eighth  Grade</b>  <b>COMPLETE</b></p> <p>Mark Montgomery  Fred Lorthioir  Olga Hartwell  Charlie Baird</p>

## *The First Congregational Church of Greenwich*

108 Sound Beach Avenue, Old Greenwich, Connecticut, 06870

203-637-1791

[www.fccog.org](http://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

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