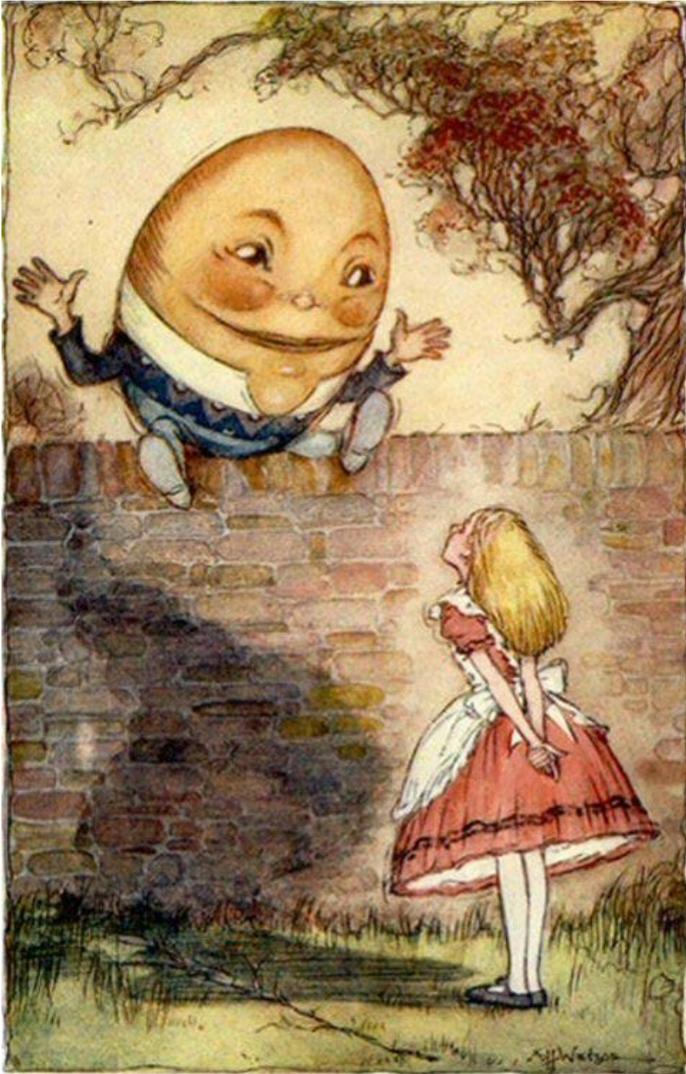


The First Congregational Church of Greenwich
Founded in 1665

25 June 2017

10 o'clock in the morning



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.



Welcome to this service of worship at The First Congregational Church of Greenwich on this Sunday morning. Please join us after worship for our Community Hour in the Memory Garden.

PREPARING FOR WORSHIP

Please silence all cell phones and other electronic devices.

*All who are able please stand.

PRELUDE

Prelude on "Slane"

Eric Birk, Guest Director/Organist

Eric Thiman (1900-1975)

CALL TO COMMUNITY

(Please sign and pass the red Fellowship Pad found at the end of your pew.)

Rev. Richard S. DenUyl, Jr.

PRAISING GOD

*** CALL TO WORSHIP**

Leader: We have gathered here to worship God.

People: We have come seeking comfort, inspiration, community and insight.

Leader: We have come to open ourselves to the power of God's presence in our midst.

All: We have come to offer up the seasons and the turnings in our lives, and to ask God's help in our learning and our growing.

*** PASSING OF THE PEACE**

CHORAL INTROIT

*** HYMN**

Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty

Pilgrim (red) Hymnal 251

GATHERING PRAYER

Rev. Avery C. Manchester

Holy God, we confess that we do not trust You fully. We put our hope in worldly gain and in human promises, and find ourselves defeated and lost when things fall apart.

You have given us a love more fully than anything we could experience in this world. Grant us the faith to embrace it and move forward. We ask this in Christ name, 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.

HEARING GOD'S WORD

FIRST LESSON

Helen Ingraham

1 Corinthians 1: 18-25

For the message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. For it is written,

“I will destroy the wisdom of the wise,
and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart.”

Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of our proclamation, to save those who believe. For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom, but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the

wisdom of God. For God’s foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God’s weakness is stronger than human strength.

—New Standard Revised Version

ANTHEM

Grow in Grace

The Summer Choir

Malcolm Archer (b. 1952)

Grow in grace and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. As newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the Word, that you shall grow thereby. Grow in peace, and may the blessing of the Lord be upon you. The Lord shall with his holy oil anoint you, and you shall know his grace. I will sprinkle clean water upon you, I will give you a new heart, I will put my Spirit within you, and you shall live by my statutes. Amen.

SECOND LESSON

The Book of Job (selected verses/paraphrased)

There was once a man in the land of Uz whose name was Job. That man was blameless and upright, one who feared God and turned away from evil.

One day, a messenger came to Job and said, “The oxen were plowing and the donkeys were feeding beside them, and the Sabeans fell on them and carried them off, and killed the servants with the edge of the sword.” While he was still speaking, another came and said, “The fire of God fell from heaven and burned up the sheep and the servants, and consumed them.” While he was still speaking, another came and said, “The Chaldeans formed three columns, made a raid on the camels and carried them off, and killed the servants with the edge of the sword.” While he was still speaking, another came and said, “Your sons and daughters were eating and drinking wine in their eldest brother’s house, and suddenly a great wind came across the desert, struck the four corners of the house, and it fell on the young people, and they are dead.”

Then Job arose, tore his robe, shaved his head, and fell on the ground and worshiped. He said, “Naked I came from my mother’s womb, and

naked shall I return there; the Lord gave, and the Lord has taken away; blessed be the name of the Lord.”

In the days that followed Job’s wife became distraught and ordered Job to “curse God and die.” His friend Bildad told Job to “repent!” His friend Zophar told Job that his “guilt deserves punishment.” His friend Eliphaz accused Job of “undermining his religion.” To which Job replied, “I know that my redeemer lives!”

Throughout his suffering and misfortune, Job remained faithful to God. At the same time, he maintained his innocence and had the courage to question God as to why all this had happened to him.

Finally the Lord answered Job out of the whirlwind: “Where were you when I laid the foundations of the earth? Tell me if you understand?

Where were you when the morning stars sang together
and all the heavenly beings shouted for joy?

“Where were you when I shut in the sea with doors
when it burst out from the womb?”

Then Job answered the Lord:

“I know that you can do all things,
and that no purpose of yours can be thwarted.
I had heard of you by the hearing of the ear,
but now my eye sees you.”

Hearing this, the Lord restored the fortunes of Job, and the Lord gave Job twice as much as he had before. After this Job lived one hundred and forty years, and saw his children, and his children’s children, four generations. And Job died, old and full of days.

SERMON

When Life Falls Apart

Rev. Richard S. DenUyl, Jr.

*** HYMN**

I Look to Thee in Every Need

Pilgrim (red) hymnal 92

PASTORAL PRAYER

Rev. Avery C. Manchester

RESPONDING TO GOD

ORGAN OFFERTORY

Allegretto (from Sonata No.

4 in B-flat Major)

Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847)

*** DOXOLOGY**

Pilgrim (red) Hymnal 515

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all
creatures here below; Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

*** PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

GOING FORTH TO SERVE GOD

*** HYMN**

Our God, Our Help in Ages Past

Pilgrim (red) hymnal 1

*** BENEDICTION**

*** CHORAL RESPONSE**

POSTLUDE

Carillon

Herbert Murrill (1909-1952)

* * *

Directly following the service, one of our pastors will remain in the
Chapel to be available to anyone who has a pastoral care concern.

We have **child care for babies and toddlers** every Sunday in the
Preschool classrooms. Your children are always welcome in child care
for the entire worship service or for a respite time if needed. We also
now have two rows in the back of the chapel reserved for parents
with infants or little ones who are not ready for the Nursery where
the parents can be comfortable and still be part of worship. Please
see an usher if you need help finding either of these locations.

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.

NEWS AND NOTICES

TODAY

Church School

This Sunday there will be no Church School outside of Child Care for children birth through 4 years old. However all children are invited to be in worship and we will have a special "PrayerGround" in the chapel with rugs, playthings, books and coloring options for any young children who will be here. Parents need to supervise their children in this area and can easily do that from the front row in the chapel or the front row on the lectern side of the Meetinghouse.

2017 Mission Trip

Today, June 25, ten youth and 3 adults will venture to Miami, Florida for a service learning mission trip. Youth from First Church will join other youth groups from across the country to serve alongside agencies working the poor and oppressed in the Miami area. This is an exciting opportunity to learn about how poverty affects people in a unique setting.

Parish Nurse

Sue Asselin, RN will be available for blood pressure screenings and health consultations during Community Hour, following today's worship service. During the week she is available on Tuesdays and Wednesdays by appointment, which can be made by calling extension 21.

UPCOMING

Join Us Next Sunday for a Special Patriotic Celebration with Brass!

Next Sunday, July 2, will be a Sunday not to miss. The music for the morning will be energetic and soul-stirring with The Summer Choir

singing arrangements of Irving Berlin's "God Bless America" and Oscar Peterson's "Hymn to Freedom". A brass quintet will accompany traditional patriotic hymns such as America the Beautiful, My Country 'Tis of Thee, and Battle Hymn of the Republic. The service begins with familiar Americana tunes by the brass, including Yankee Doodle Dandy, You're a Grand Old Flag, and capping off the service will be "Stars and Stripes Forever" with church member Mary Fike playing the famous piccolo part with the brass. What better way to start your holiday week than being in church to celebrate the founding of our country!

Summer Choir – All Welcome!

Please join us on Sunday mornings throughout the summer, starting at 9:00 am in the Meetinghouse for a warm-up and rehearsal of the music being sung that morning. Come any Sunday that you are available to help lead the congregation in worship, and it's also a chance to experience worship from the choir loft. Everyone is welcome! If you have any questions, please contact Craig Symons (ext. 22).

Summer Sings start June 28!

Do you miss singing with your choir during the summer months? Come as you are from 7:30-9:30 on the Wednesday June 28 and, within two hours, we will have shared in an energized rehearsal and an 'instant performance' of great choral music.

Music will be provided. Hospitality, refreshments, and fun are all included! No sign-up necessary, just come ready to sing. Donation of \$10 per person.

Wednesday, June 28—Haydn *Creation*

Craig Scott Symons, conductor

John A. Wolfe, accompanist

Refocusing Women's Fellowship We Need Your Help

It has been several years since Women's Fellowship has considered its vision and purpose. We are hosting two focus group opportunities in order to have a dialogue about the future of Women's Fellowship. Please join us on Wednesday, June 28th from 7 to 8 pm. Both sessions will be held at the church.

RSVP to ginnyb@fccog.org indicating that you plan to attend. If you are not able to attend you are invited to send your comments to ginnyb@fccog.org.

Calling Women of All Ages and Stages!

Come hear what Ruth and Naomi have to do with us today! On four Mondays we are going to gather for a BYO (appetizers and beverages) to reflect on and discuss the Book of Ruth.

Under the able guidance of Olga Hartwell a current Yale Divinity School student and long-time member of our church, we will gather on Monday, June 26 at the church in the Binney Conference Room to begin a journey of discovery. We will meet from 6:00 to 7:30 PM. The subsequent dates are July 10 and July 17. Contact RosemaryL@fccog.org for questions.

News from The Rummage Room

191 Sound Beach Avenue, Old Greenwich

Monday, June 26th thru Saturday, July 1: Sale items for the week can be found on the website at www.fccog.org/about-us/the-rummage-room.

Thursday, July 6th through Saturday, July 8: Old Greenwich Sidewalk Sales.

Manager Leanne's Wish List: Records, fall sweaters, and table linens.

Shop Hours: 10:00-5:00 pm Monday to Friday & 10:00-1 pm Saturday.

Donation Hours: 9:30-4:30 pm Monday to Thursday & 9:30-12:30 pm Friday and Saturday. Please do not leave donations when the shop is closed.

Monday, July 3: The Rummage Room will be open 10-5:00 pm.

Tuesday, July 4: The Rummage Room will be closed for Independence Day.

Wednesday, July 5: The Rummage Room will reopen 10 - 5:00 pm.

Notice: Last day for donations will be August 3. The Rummage Room will close on August 5, and reopen on September 5.

Thought for the times: It was an attack that showed America at its worst ... and then at its best. A white man on a train began shouting anti-Muslim insults at a black girl and her friend who was wearing a hijab. Three brave men, a veteran, a college student, and a poet intervened and the man leaped forward and slashed them with a

knife. One died at the scene. Another died on the way to the hospital. The poet was injured but spared. After coming out of surgery he wrote a poem that read in part: "I am alive. I spat in the eye of hate and lived. This is what we must do for one another. We must live for one another."

Caregivers Support Group

Please join us for the Caregivers Support Group for those who currently are, recently have been, or no longer are, a caregiver for a family member or friend. The group offers a confidential place where participants can share experiences, learn new information, and receive emotional support and comfort from others in similar situations. The group meets on the second Sunday of the month from 11:15 am - 12:15 pm in the Binney Conference Room. Dorothy Mueller, FCCOG Stephen Minister, is the group facilitator. For more information, please call Dorothy at (203) 588-9896, or email: dorothymueller1@gmail.com .

**Next Week at First Church
Sunday, July 2**

Rev. Richard S. DenUyl, Jr., preaching

Music by The Summer Choir
God Bless America—Arr. Roger Emerson
Hymn to Freedom—Oscar Peterson
Brass Ensemble—Familiar American Patriotic Selections



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. Richard S. DenUyl, Jr.

Associate Pastor: Rev. Patrick Collins

Associate Pastor for Pastoral Care: Rev. Avery C. Manchester

Director of Music: Dr. Craig Scott Symons

Director of Family Ministries: Rosemary Lamie

Director of Church Administration & Finance: Steve Summerton

Administrative Assistant - Operations: Donna White

Director of Membership: Ginny Breismeister

Parish Nurse: Susan Asselin, RN

Director of Preschool: Darla Kohler Steiner

Publications Coordinator: Vance Briceland

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