

The First Congregational Church of Greenwich
Founded in 1665

Founders Day

16 July 2017

10 o'clock in the morning



So on May 11, 1665 at a meeting of the General Court in Hartford with Governor Winthrop presiding, Greenwich was granted a charter:

“Upon ye motion and desire of ye people of Greenwich this court doth declare that Greenwich shalbe a Township intire of itself provided they procure and maintaine an Orthodox minister and in the meane time and until yt be effected they are to attend ye ministry at Stamford and contribute proportionably with Stamford to ye maintenance of the ministry there.”

—The First Three Hundred Years – The History of The First Congregational Church of Greenwich, CT

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

Dialogue en trio

Dr. Craig Scott Symons, director

Francois Couperin (1668-1733)

CALL TO COMMUNITY

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

Rev. Richard S. DenUyl, Jr.

PROCLAMATION

PRAISING GOD

*** CALL TO WORSHIP**

Rev. Richard S. DenUyl, Jr.

Leader: In the beauty of this moment

People: We worship you.

Leader: In the fellowship of your people

People: We worship you.

Leader: In the presence of your Spirit

People: We worship you.

Leader: In the company of all creation

People: We worship you.

All: Praise be to you Father, Son and Holy Spirit!

*** PASSING OF THE PEACE**

*** HYMN**

Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty

Pilgrim (red) Hymnal 251

UNISON PRAYER—PRAYER OF ST. FRANCIS

Lord, make me an instrument of your peace.
Where there is hatred, let me bring love.
Where there is offense, let me bring pardon.
Where there is discord, let me bring union.
Where there is error, let me bring truth.
Where there is doubt, let me bring faith.
Where there is despair, let me bring hope.
Where there is darkness, let me bring your light.
Where there is sadness, let me bring joy.
O Master, let me not seek as much
to be consoled as to console,
to be understood as to understand,
to be loved as to love,
for it is in giving that one receives,
it is in self-forgetting that one finds,
it is in pardoning that one is pardoned,
it is in dying that one is raised to eternal life.
This we pray 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

ANTHEM

Let the Whole Creation Cry

The Summer Choir
Roland Martin (b. 1955)

Let the whole creation cry: Glory to the Lord on high!
Heav'n and earth, awake and sing: God is good and therefore King!

Praise Him, all ye hosts above, Ever bright and fair in love,
Sun and moon, lift up your voice, Night and stars in God rejoice.

Warriors fighting for the Lord, Prophets burning with His Word,
Those to whom the arts belong, Add their voices to the song.

Kings of knowledge and of law, To the glorious circle draw,
All who work and all who wait, Sing, "The Lord is good and great!"

Men and women, young and old, Raise the anthem manifold,
And let children's happy hearts, In this worship bear their parts.

From the north to southern pole, Let the mighty chorus roll,
"Holy, holy, holy One, Glory be to God alone!"

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Olga Hartwell

Rev. Richard S. DenUyl, Jr.

The Book of Jonah (selected verses)

The word of the Lord came to Jonah. "Go to the great city of Nineveh and preach against it, because its wickedness has come up before me." But Jonah ran away from the Lord and headed for Tarshish. He went down to Joppa, where he found a ship bound for that port. After paying the fare, he went aboard and sailed for Tarshish to flee from the Lord. Then the Lord sent a great wind on the sea, and such a violent storm arose that the ship threatened to break up. All the sailors were afraid and each cried out to his own god. And they threw the cargo into the sea to lighten the ship.

But Jonah had gone below deck, where he lay down and fell into a deep sleep. The captain went to him and said, "How can you sleep? Get up and call on your god! Maybe he will take notice of us so that we will not perish." Jonah answered, "I am a Hebrew and I worship the Lord, the God of heaven, who made the sea and the dry land." The sea was getting rougher and rougher. So they asked him, "What should we do to you to make the sea calm down for us?" "Pick me up and throw me into the sea," he replied, "and it will become calm. I know that it is my fault that this great storm has come upon you."

Instead, the men did their best to row back to land. But they could not, for the sea grew even wilder than before. Then they cried out to the Lord, "Please, Lord, do not let us die for taking this man's life. Do not hold us accountable for killing an innocent man, for you,

Lord, have done as you pleased.” Then they took Jonah and threw him overboard, and the raging sea grew calm.

Now the Lord provided a huge fish to swallow Jonah, and Jonah was in the belly of the fish three days and three nights. From inside the fish Jonah prayed to the Lord his God: “Salvation comes from the Lord.” And the Lord commanded the fish, and it vomited Jonah onto dry land.

Then the word of the Lord came to Jonah a second time: “Go to the great city of Nineveh and proclaim to it the message I give you.”

Jonah obeyed the word of the Lord and went to Nineveh proclaiming, “Forty more days and Nineveh will be overthrown.” The Ninevites believed God. A fast was proclaimed, and all of them, from the greatest to the least, put on sackcloth. When God saw what they did and how they turned from their evil ways, he relented and did not bring on them the destruction he had threatened.

But to Jonah this seemed very wrong, and he became angry. He prayed to the Lord, “Isn’t this what I said, Lord, when I was still at home? That is what I tried to forestall by fleeing to Tarshish. I knew that you are a gracious and compassionate God, slow to anger and abounding in love, a God who relents from sending calamity. Now, Lord, take away my life, for it is better for me to die than to live.”

But the Lord replied, “Is it right for you to be angry? Should I not have concern for the great city of Nineveh, in which there are more than a hundred and twenty thousand people who cannot tell their right hand from their left—and also many animals?”

—New Revised Standard Version

SERMON

The Wideness in God’s Mercy

Rev. Richard S. DenUyl, Jr.

*** HYMN**

There’s a Wideness in God’s Mercy New Century (black) Hymnal 23

PASTORAL PRAYER

RESPONDING TO GOD

CALL TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY MUSIC

Songs of Spain (Asturias)

Alex Mair, piano
Isaac Albéniz (1860-1909)

* 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

Amazing Grace

New Century (black) Hymnal 547

* BENEDICTION

* CHORAL RESPONSE

POSTLUDE

Dialogue sur les grands jeux

Francois Couperin

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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 is 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 "PrayGround" 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.

Blood Pressure Screening

Betsy Kreuter, PT, a volunteer from the Wellness Committee, is available to perform blood pressure screenings during community hour, following today's worship service.

UPCOMING

Calling Women of All Ages and Stages!

Come hear what Ruth and Naomi have to do with us today! It is not too late to join the group. This Monday we will 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 meet on Monday, July 17 at the church in the Binney Conference Room to continue a journey of discovery. We will meet from 6:00 to 7:30 pm. Contact RosemaryL@fccog.org for questions.

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).

Join Us for Summer Sings!

Do you miss singing with your choir during the summer months? Come as you are from 7:30-9:30 on the Wednesday July 26 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, July 26—An Evening with Gilbert and Sullivan

Eric Peterson, conductor

Dorothy Kolinsky, accompanist

News from The Rummage Room

191 Sound Beach Avenue, Old Greenwich

Monday, July 17: Sale items for the week can be found on the website at www.fccog.org/about-us/the-rummage-room.

Monday, July 17: The Rummage Room will be open 10-5 pm, Mondays through Thursdays.

Friday, July 20: The Rummage Room will be open Fridays from 10-3 pm and will be closing early on Fridays **for the month of July.**

Donation Hours: 9:30-4:30 Monday-Thursday and 9:30-12:30 Friday and Saturday.

Monday, July 31st through Wednesday, August 2: Everything in the shop 50% off!

Thursday - August 3: All you can stuff in a bag for \$12.00

Friday, August 4th: All you can cram in a bag for \$8.00

Saturday, August 5: All you can jam in a bag for \$1.00 (Everything in the shop must go by 1 pm on Saturday!)

Notice: Last day for donations will be August 2. The Rummage Room will close on August 5 for restocking and repairs. Please do not leave donations while the Rummage Room is closed, as they will be ruined in rainy weather!

Tuesday, September 5: The Rummage Room's 53rd Grand Reopening will be at 10 am.

Wednesday, September 6: The Rummage Room will be accepting donations again from 9:30-4:30.

Prayer for the week: As we observe the faces of you who buy and donate to The Rummage Room, we know that you realize how much good the Rummage Room is able to do and we are grateful. All the proceeds help make spirits brighter for those who might have nothing otherwise. Thanks for your many, many years of support. And just wait until you see what Manager Leanne has for you on Reopening Day.

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.

A Note from Avery

In my sermon last Sunday, I mentioned the Rev Dr. William J. Barber II and Jonathan Wilson-Hartgrove's book *The Third Reconstruction: How a Moral Movement Is Overcoming the Politics of Division and Fear*. Rev. Barber's examines how 'Moral Mondays' represent the country's Third Reconstruction, uniting individuals both secular and religious and of all races and creeds in a progressive grassroots movement. Copies are available in the church office for \$15. —Rev. Avery C. Manchester

Next Week at First Church
Sunday, July 23

Rev. Richard S. DenUyl, Jr., preaching

Choral Music by The Summer Choir
Carol of Beauty—Dennis Krause

Flute Music by Jordan Castro



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