

The First Congregational Church of Greenwich
Founded in 1665

Stewardship Sunday

22 October 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 and Fugue in E minor

Dr. Craig Scott Symons, organist

J. S. Bach (1685-1750)

CALL TO COMMUNITY

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

Rev. Patrick Collins

CHORAL CALL TO WORSHIP

All Things Bright and Beautiful

Cecil Alexander

The Cherub Choir

Carol Woodman, director

Debbie Berner, piano

PRAISING GOD

UNISON PRAYER

Rev. Avery C. Manchester

God of grace and witness, you who believe in us more than we do in ourselves: increase our faith in you and ourselves, that our actions may serve you and the world you have made with confidence and courage, so we may accomplish your will and fulfill our own lives. In the name of Jesus we pray. Amen.

*** PASSING OF THE PEACE**

*** HYMN**

Rejoice, the Lord Is King

Pilgrim (red) Hymnal 204

STEWARDSHIP MOMENT

Paul Ghaffari

RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS

ROLL CALL OF CANDIDATES

Ginny Breismeister

(Candidates will come forward as their names are called)

**COMMITMENT
OF CANDIDATES**

Rev. Patrick Collins

Clergy: We are called of God to be disciples through Christ Jesus.

Today we welcome each of you to join us in the joy of God's service through the work of First Congregational Church of Greenwich.

Senior Deacon: Friends in Christ, we bid you welcome. We greet you as fellow disciples of Christ. Our purpose is to promote the increase of the love of God and neighbor. Will you now unite yourself with The First Congregational Church of Greenwich, accepting its responsibilities, praying and working for its usefulness, sustaining its worship, supporting its wider mission, and living with us in the joys of Christian fellowship?

Candidates: I will.

Clergy: We believe in the freedom and responsibility of the individual soul and the right of private judgment. We join in fellowship with other congregations of the United Church of Christ in declaring our steadfast allegiance to the faith which our forebears confessed, which from age to age has found its expression in the historic creeds of the Church Universal and of our Communion, and in affirming our loyalty to the basic principles of our representative democracy. We hereby set forth the things we most surely believe.

*** THE COVENANT**

(All who are able, please stand)

We believe in God, infinite in wisdom and love, in Jesus Christ, and in the Holy Spirit, who renews, comforts and inspires us. We are united in seeking to know the will of God as taught in the Holy Scriptures and to walk in the ways of Christ. As Jesus accepted, welcomed and embraced

all people without exception, so do we accept all who join with us in our journey to be a people of faith. We accept the mission of this church to proclaim the gospel, to worship God and to work for the dream of a compassionate world. Trusting in God's Spirit, we promise to support each other in love, that through our faith, the world might be made new.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Graham Cutting Miller, son of
Mary Catherine Miller & Nicholas Robert Miller

BAPTISM PRAYER (in unison)

Gracious God, giver of life, you have called us by name, and pledge to each of us your faithful love. We pray today for your blessing on Graham, that you will watch over him and guide him as he grows in faith. Remind us of the promises of our own baptism, and renew our trust in you. Make us strong to obey your will and to serve you with joy, through the power of your Holy Spirit. All of this we pray as Jesus taught us saying,

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.

BAPTISMAL RESPONSE

Child of Blessing,

Child of Promise

New Century (black) Hymnal 325

Child of blessing, child of promise,
baptized with the Spirit's sign;
With this water God has sealed you
unto love and grace divine.

Child of God, your loving Parent,

**learn to know whose child you are.
Grow to laugh and sing and worship,
trust and love God more than all.**

(After the baptism, all children will go directly to their classrooms. Kindergarten and 1st grade is in the Red Door. 2nd grade is in the new Gold Door (on the lower level; next to the Rainbow Door). 3rd grade is in the Rainbow Door. 4th and 5th graders are in the Lounge (across from the auditorium.) 6th grades go to Patrick's Office on the 3rd floor and 7th and 8th graders go to the new Youth Room just past the kitchen.)

HEARING GOD'S WORD

FIRST LESSON

Andrea Woodman Osker

James 2 2: 14-18, 25

My brothers and sisters, what good is it if people say they have faith but do nothing to show it? Claiming to have faith can't save anyone, can it? Imagine a brother or sister who is naked and never has enough food to eat. What if one of you said, "Go in peace! Stay warm! Have a nice meal!"? What good is it if you don't actually give them what their body needs? In the same way, faith is dead when it doesn't result in faithful activity.

Someone might claim, "You have faith and I have action." But how can I see your faith apart from your actions? Instead, I'll show you my faith by putting it into practice in faithful action.

—Common English Bible

SOLO

Ride on, King Jesus

Linnea Conley, mezzo soprano

Hall Johnson (1888-1970)

SECOND LESSON

Wah ˇ pániča

Yet I feel forced to decide if poor really means
brittle hands dust and candy-stained mouths a
neighbor girl's teeth convenience store shelves
Hamburger Helper a dog's matted fur a van seat
pulled to the living room floor those children

playing in the carcass of a car mice on the floorboard my sweeping chili hantavirus the ripe smell a horse chewed ripped its backbone exposed the swarms of do-gooders their goodly photos the heat the cold the drunks we pass waiving dollar bills again tonight a bang on the door the stories no one here can stop the urge to tell I am buried in. This is the cheapest form of poor I decide it's the oil at the surface I'm tempted to say it. But a friend asserts that anyone asserting that poverty isn't about the money has never been stomach sick over how to spend their last \$3 comma on milk or gas or half for both with two children in the backseat watching. I agree to let meanings and arguments with my head thrust into the punctuation of poverty here, breathe.

— Layli Long Soldier

SERMON

Faith in Action

Rev. Patrick Collins

*** HYMN**

Today We All Are Called to Be Disciples

The image shows a musical score for a hymn. It consists of two staves: a treble clef staff at the top and a bass clef staff at the bottom. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The melody is written in the treble clef, and the bass line is in the bass clef. Below the treble clef staff, there are four lines of lyrics, each numbered 1 through 4. The lyrics are: 1 To - day we all are called to be dis - ci - ples of the; 2 God made the world and at its birth or - dained our hu - man; 3 Pray jus - tice may come roll - ing down as in a might - y; 4 May we in ser - vice to our God act out the liv - ing.

Lord, to help to set the cap - tive free, make
 race to live as stew - ards of the earth, re -
 stream, with righ - teous - ness in field and town, to
 word, and walk the road the saints have trod till

plow - share out of sword, to feed the hun - gry, quench their
 spond - ing to God's grace. But we are vain and sad - ly
 cleanse us and re - deem. For God is long - ing to re -
 all have seen and heard. As stew - ards of the earth may

thirst, make love and peace our fast, to serve the
 proud; we sow not peace but strife. Our dis - cord
 store an earth where con - flicts cease, a world that
 we give thanks in one ac - cord to God who

poor and home - less first, our ease and com - fort last.
 spreads a dead - ly cloud that threat - ens all of life.
 was cre - at - ed for a har - mo - ny of peace.
 calls us all to be dis - ci - ples of the Lord.

RESPONDING TO GOD

CALL TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

The Chancel Choir

I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light Arr. Paul Manz (1919-2009)

I want to walk as a child of the light,
I want to follow Jesus.
God sent the stars to give light to the world,
The star of my life is Jesus.

In Him there is no darkness at all.
The night and the day are both alike.
The Lamb is the light of the city of God;
Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus.

I want to see the brightness of God.
I want to look at Jesus.
Clear sun of righteousness, shine on my path
And show me the way to the Father.

In Him there is no darkness at all.
The night and the day are both alike.
The Lamb is the light of the city of God.
Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus.

* 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

When in Our Music God
Is Glorified

New Century (black) Hymnal 561

MOMENT OF HONOR

Celebrating Barbara Van Buren's 100th Birthday

*** BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

Chiming of Tower Bells

* * *

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

The flowers in the meetinghouse were given in joyful celebration of the baptism of Graham Cutting Miller by the Miller Family.

A Note to Parents

Relax! God put the wiggle in children, do not feel you have to suppress it during worship. The presence of children is a Gift to the church, which offers hope for all. Jesus said, "Let the children come to me." At First Church we believe that the way we welcome children in worship directly affects the way they respond to God, the church, and to one another.

For those who are interested, we do have child care available for babies and toddlers every Sunday, for the entirety of the church service, in the Preschool classrooms.

To the members of our congregation, please know that a smile of encouragement is always welcome to parents with small, active children.

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

A Note from the Stewardship Committee

Please join us after the Worship Service for a festive reception at Community Hour. There will be music, lots of great food, and a popcorn machine! Fun for everyone, brought to you by the Stewardship Committee!

Church School

Today most classes will finish their workshops based on Paul's first letter to the Corinthians about love. Every class does different activities, so be sure to ask your children what they did in class. 3rd graders will learn about the story of Joseph, his father, his brothers and the coat of many colors as found in the book of Genesis. Next week the Rotation Workshops will begin a three-week series on "Jesus feeds the 5000".

On **Sunday, Oct 29**, the 4th and 5th grade class will go to Pilgrim Towers for our 10th annual Halloween Party. Part of our Church School community service program and anyone is invited to come along. Children are encouraged to wear their costumes. Let Rosemary know if you would like to join in.

Choir Rehearsals

The following choirs will meet today in their normal places/times:

- Children's Choir: Music Room (3rd floor) 11:15-12:00
- Youth Choir: Choir Room (3rd floor) 11:15-12:15

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.

New Members Joining Today

Lila (Lynn) Brown, 33 Halsey Drive, Old Greenwich, CT 06870, 203-637-2386. Lynn comes to First Congregational Church by

Reaffirmation of Faith. Lynn is a retired special education teacher and has lived in Old Greenwich with her husband Tom for many years. Lynn and Tom have one daughter and two grandchildren living in Tacoma, WA.

Adam and Catherine Enterkin, 10 Park Avenue, Old Greenwich, CT 06870, 917-331-7198. Adam and Catherine come to First Congregational Church by Confession of Faith. They moved from London to Old Greenwich last year with their children Beatrice (Bea) age 6, Elizabeth (Betsy) age 4, and George who will be two in November. Adam works in software for Blackberry. Adam enjoys skiing. The Enterkins are looking forward to being part of First Church and the Old Greenwich community.

Michael (Mike) and Anne Ettinger, 59 Park Avenue, Old Greenwich, CT 06870, 917-680-8348. Mike and Anne come to First Congregational Church by Reaffirmation of Faith. The Enterkins moved from London to Old Greenwich approximately 5 years ago. They are the parents of twins, Siena and Michael age 7, and Eva age 5. Anne is a stay-at-home mom who enjoys cooking and exercising and Mike has had a long career in finance. The family is looking forward to becoming an active part of this church community.

Mark and Kirby Grabowski, 17 Palmer Lane, Riverside, CT 06878, 646-321-0134 (Mark) 646-526-7990 (Kirby). Mark and Kirby come to First Congregational Church by Reaffirmation of Faith. Kirby grew up in Greenwich and is now a professor at Teachers College, Columbia University and Mark is in private equity at TPG. They are the parents of Linus, age 8 and twins Julia and Sylvie age 6. The Grabowskis are looking forward to the sense of community and deepening their faith at First Church.

Thomas (Tom) and Kerith Knechtel, 4 Interlaken Road, Greenwich, CT 06830, 516-220-7949 (Kerith). Tom and Kerith come to First Congregational Church by Reaffirmation of Faith. Tom is in finance with Verition and Kerith is senior counsel with Priceline.com. They are the parents of twins, Wynn and Sydney, almost 5 years old. The Knechtels moved to Greenwich two and one half years ago and love being active outdoors as a family. They are thrilled to be joining First Church.

Kristin Knowles, 69 Shore Road, Old Greenwich, CT 06870, 917-747-3772. Kristin comes to First Congregational Church by Reaffirmation of Faith. Kristin and her husband Peter moved to Old Greenwich two years ago. She is currently at home with their

children Jack, age 5, and Kate, 1 year old. Prior to having children Kristin worked in public relations for an investment bank.

Alex and Leander (Lea) Krueger, 19 Meadow Place, Old Greenwich, CT, 06870, 917-579-0737 (Alex), 917-655-2574 (Lea). Alex and Lea come to First Congregational Church by Reaffirmation of Faith. Alex is CEO of First Reserve and Lea is an architect. They moved to Old Greenwich from London three years ago. Lea and Alex are the parents of Max, age 11, Leighton, age 10, and August, age 6. As a family, the Kruegers love to travel and enjoy boating and taking advantage of the wonderful community we live in.

Malcolm (Mal) and Elaine McNiven, 33 West Bank Lane, Stamford, CT 06902 203-353-0486. Mal and Elaine come to First Congregational Church by Reaffirmation of Faith. During their 63 years of marriage Mal and Elaine moved many times for his work as a marketing director. They retired to Stamford to live close to their children and grandchildren. Mal enjoys reading and Elaine has been an active volunteer wherever they have lived and enjoys gardening and playing bridge.

Nicholas (Nick) Miller, 44 Halsey Drive, Old Greenwich, CT 06870, 802-578-6413. Nick comes to First Congregational Church by Confession of Faith. Nick is married to Mary Olsson Miller who grew up here and was confirmed at First Church. They are the parents of Owen, age 4 and Graham who is 18 months. Nick is a lawyer with Seward & Kissel, LLP and enjoys golf, swimming and skiing. The Millers moved to Old Greenwich from New York City 3 years ago.

Jennifer (Jen) Saba, 44 Ritch Ave. Greenwich, CT, 06830, 203-536-8595. Jen comes to First Congregational Church by reaffirmation of Faith. She is self employed (GSS Sales Group) as a consultant on Overseas Operations and Sales for Kinfine. She and her husband Joe, a very active FCCOG member, are the parents of 5 year old Gianni. Jen is looking forward to starting her new journey with First Church.

UPCOMING

Cabaret Concert: November 4

It's just 2 weeks until our First Music & Arts season opener on Saturday, November 4, at 7:30 and 10:00 p.m. "Life is a Cabaret! – An Evening with Delighted Toberhere and Vodka Stinger." The 7:30 pm show is sold out, but tickets are now on sale for the 10:00 pm

show on church website www.fccog.org under “Upcoming Events” on the lower left side of the main page. Tickets are NOT available at the door and you must reserve/purchase your tickets on the website.

Second Hour: Rabbi Cohen November 5

Please join us for an inspiring talk by Rabbi Daniel Cohen. He will share practical self-reflection strategies to create and live your legacy. Rabbi Cohen will discuss seven transformative principles to reverse engineer your life so that you are living with purpose and passion, so that the person you are today will more closely align with the person you aspire to be.

Rabbi Cohen is the spiritual leader of Congregation Agudath Sholom in Stamford. He speaks with authenticity and humor, and shares his wisdom which transcends all faiths. Rabbi Cohen's book will be available for purchase during Coffee Hour on October 22 & 29 and after his talk on November 5th. The discounted price will be \$10.

Hurricane Relief Yoga Classes

Andrea Woodman Osker will be giving yoga classes to benefit the victims of the many hurricanes which have wreaked such havoc. The classes will be gentle in nature. Classes will be held in the Daniels Center at 1:00pm. The dates are Saturdays on November 18 and December 16th. Live music will be performed by Kevin Makarewicz. Please come and support those who have suffered so! The suggested donation is \$20.00. Please bring a yoga mat. All levels are welcome.

Save the Date

Saturday November 11 is our next First Church Volunteer Day at Neighbor to Neighbor. To sign up for a time slot between 8:30 and 12:30 go to Sign Up Genius at <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f094ca4ab2faaf58-neighbor>. We will be stocking the food pantry and sorting and displaying the clothing and linen contributions. Neighbor-To-Neighbor is located at Christ Church in Greenwich (across Putnam Avenue from the YWCA). Please contact Rosemary Lamie (RosemaryL@fccog.org) if you have any questions. This is a great opportunity for a parent/child team or a teen and a friend as well as

individuals. Children 12 – 15 need to be accompanied by a parent or another adult.

News from the Rummage Room
191 Sound Beach Avenue, Old Greenwich

Monday, October 23: All Halloween items 50% off for the week. Other items 50% off for the Week may be found on the website at [www.fccog.org/about-us/the rummage room/](http://www.fccog.org/about-us/the-rummage-room/) .

Mgr. Leanne's Wish List: Thanksgiving items; children's coats; and winter hats.

Shopping Hours: Monday through Friday, 10 to 5 pm and 10 to 1 pm Saturday.

Donation Hours: Monday through Thursday 9:30 to 4:30 pm & Saturday 10 to 12:30 pm.

Thought for the week: “Nobody holds a good opinion of a person who has too good an opinion of themselves.”

**Next Week at First Church
Sunday, October 29**

Rev. Richard S. DenUyl, Jr., preaching

Music by the Chancel Choir
The Lord Is My Light and My Salvation—John Rutter
Malcolm Dickenson, clarinet

Music by the Children's Choir
God of Great and God of Small—Natalie Sleeth

Music by Malcolm Dickenson, saxophone
The Lake—Paul Halley



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

Cover art: Rev. Patrick Collins