

*Old Greenwich,  
Connecticut*

THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL  
CHURCH OF GREENWICH

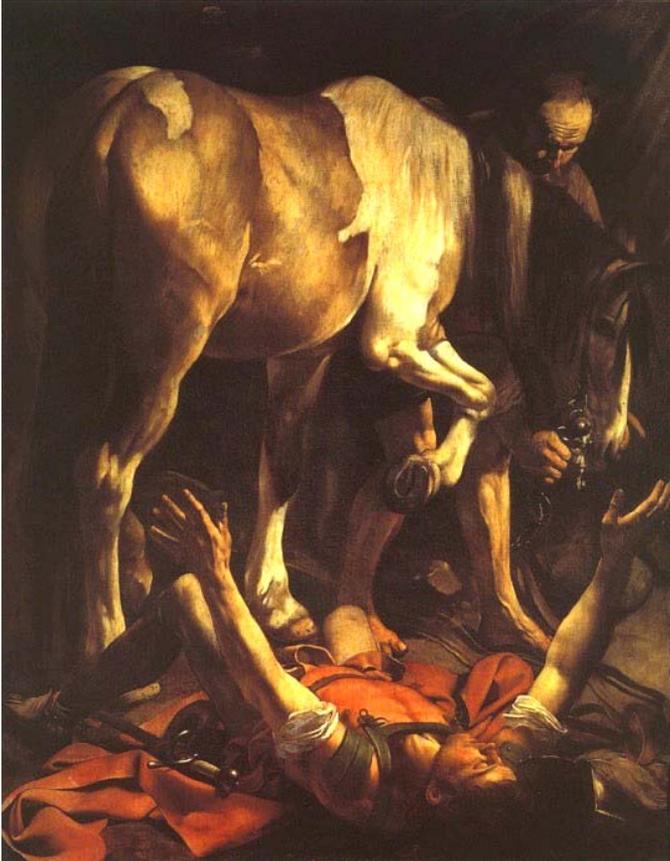
*United Church  
of Christ*

*Founded in 1665*

## The Third Sunday of Easter

14 April 2013

10 o'clock in the morning



*The Conversion of Paul* by Caravaggio (1573 – 1610 a.d.)

The composition of this painting is striking for a number of reasons; the fact that the horse occupies almost the entire canvas, the intimate mood created because of the scale of the figures and because of the focus on the foreground - the scene is viewed really close-up and this makes a spectator feel part of it and the realism all the more intense and finally the position of Paul as he lies on the ground stunned.

*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.*



**W**elcome to this service of worship at First Congregational Church of Greenwich. May this be a place in which mourning turns into dancing. Let us remove our sackcloth and clothe ourselves with joy. May our souls praise God and not be silent. And may our time of community transform us and may we give thanks to God forever.

*Psalm 30 (adapted)*

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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 & Sortie*

*Dr. Craig Scott Symons, organ  
Louis Lefébure-Wely (1817-1869)*

#### **CALL TO COMMUNITY**

*Please sign and pass the red book.*

*Rev. Mark D. Montgomery*

### **PRAISING GOD**

#### **CALL TO WORSHIP**

*Leader: Come we now out of the darkness of our unknowing and the dusk of our dreaming;*

*People: Come we now from far places.*

*Leader: Come we now into the twilight of our awakening and the reflection of our gathering.*

*People: Come we now all together.*

*Leader: We bring our dark caves of doubting;*

*People: We seek the clear light of understanding.*

*Leader: May the sparks of our joining kindle our resolve, brighten our spirits, reflect our love, and unshadow our days.*

*People: Come we now; enter God's dawning.*

*Annie Foerster (adapted)*

**\*‡HYMN**

*My Hope Is Built On Nothing Less*

New Century (black) Hymnal 403

**OPENING PRAYER** (*in unison*)

Amid all the noise in our lives, we take this moment to sit in silence—

to give thanks for another day;

to give thanks for all those in our lives who have brought us warmth and love;

to give thanks for the gift of salvation.

We know we are on our pilgrimage here but a brief moment in time.

Let us open ourselves, here, now, to the process of becoming more whole—

of living more fully for the purposes of God;

of giving and forgiving more freely;

of understanding more completely the meaning of our lives here on this earth.

We pray as Jesus taught us, saying...

*Tim Haley (adapted)*

**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.

**\*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.*

## SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

*Rev. John W. Collins*

*Marissa Lee Stein, daughter of Shera M. and Michael F. Stein*

## BAPTISMAL RESPONSE

*Child of Blessing, Child of Promise* (verse 1)

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.*

*(After the baptism, the children will go with Rosemary to Room 104 for a Big Event. Parents should meet their children in Room 104 after worship.)*

## HEARING GOD'S WORD

### FIRST LESSON

*Betsy Kreuter*

Acts 9:1-20

Meanwhile Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest and asked him for letters to the synagogues at Damascus, so that if he found any who belonged to the Way, men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem. Now as he was going along and approaching Damascus, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. He fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to him, "Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?" He asked, "Who are you, Lord?" The reply came, "I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. But get up and enter the city, and you will be told what you are to do." The men who were traveling with him stood speechless because they heard the voice but saw no one. Saul got up from the ground, and though his eyes were open, he could see nothing; so they led him by the hand and brought him into Damascus. For three days he was without sight, and neither ate nor drank.

Now there was a disciple in Damascus named Ananias. The Lord said to him in a vision, "Ananias." He answered, "Here I am, Lord." The Lord said to him, "Get up and go to the street called Straight, and at the house of Judas look for a man of Tarsus named Saul. At

this moment he is praying, and he has seen in a vision a man named Ananias come in and lay his hands on him so that he might regain his sight.” But Ananias answered, “Lord, I have heard from many about this man, how much evil he has done to your saints in Jerusalem; and here he has authority from the chief priests to bind all who invoke your name.” But the Lord said to him, “Go, for he is an instrument whom I have chosen to bring my name before Gentiles and kings and before the people of Israel; I myself will show him how much he must suffer for the sake of my name.” So Ananias went and entered the house. He laid his hands on Saul and said, “Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus, who appeared to you on your way here, has sent me so that you may regain your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit.” And immediately something like scales fell from his eyes, and his sight was restored. Then he got up and was baptized, and after taking some food, he regained his strength. For several days he was with the disciples in Damascus, and immediately he began to proclaim Jesus in the synagogues, saying, “He is the Son of God.”

*From NRSV*

#### SCRIPTURE ANTHEM

*Draw Us In the Spirit's Tether*

*The Chancel Choir*

Harold Friedell (1905-1958)

*Jayson Engquist, organist*

#### SECOND LESSON

**John 21:1-14**

**A**fter these things Jesus showed himself again to the disciples by the Sea of Tiberias; and he showed himself in this way. Gathered there together were Simon Peter, Thomas called the Twin, Nathanael of Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two others of his disciples. Simon Peter said to them, “I am going fishing.” They said to him, “We will go with you.” They went out and got into the boat, but that night they caught nothing. Just after daybreak, Jesus stood on the beach; but the disciples did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to them, “Children, you have no fish, have you?” They answered him, “No.” He said to them, “Cast the net to the right side of the boat, and you will find some.” So they cast it, and now they were not able to haul it in because there were so many fish. That disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, “It is the Lord!” When Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he put on some clothes, for

he was naked, and jumped into the sea. But the other disciples came in the boat, dragging the net full of fish, for they were not far from the land, only about a hundred yards off. When they had gone ashore, they saw a charcoal fire there, with fish on it, and bread. Jesus said to them, "Bring some of the fish that you have just caught." So Simon Peter went aboard and hauled the net ashore, full of large fish, a hundred fifty-three of them; and though there were so many, the net was not torn. Jesus said to them, "Come and have breakfast." Now none of the disciples dared to ask him, "Who are you?" because they knew it was the Lord. Jesus came and took the bread and gave it to them, and did the same with the fish. This was now the third time that Jesus appeared to the disciples after he was raised from the dead.

*From NRSV*

\*‡HYMN

*This is a Day of New Beginnings* (words and music on next page)

SERMON

*Recalculating*

*Daniel Schlorff*

**RESPONDING TO GOD**

PASTORAL PRAYER

*Rev. Daniel B. England*

CALL TO OFFERING

*Rev. Avery C. Manchester*

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

*The Best of Rooms*

*The Chancel Choir*  
Peter Matthews (b. 1944)

\*DOXOLOGY To the tune of *All Creatures of Our God and King*

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow.*

*Praise God all creatures here below: Alleluia! Alleluia!*

*Praise God, the source of all our gifts!*

*Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!*

*Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!*

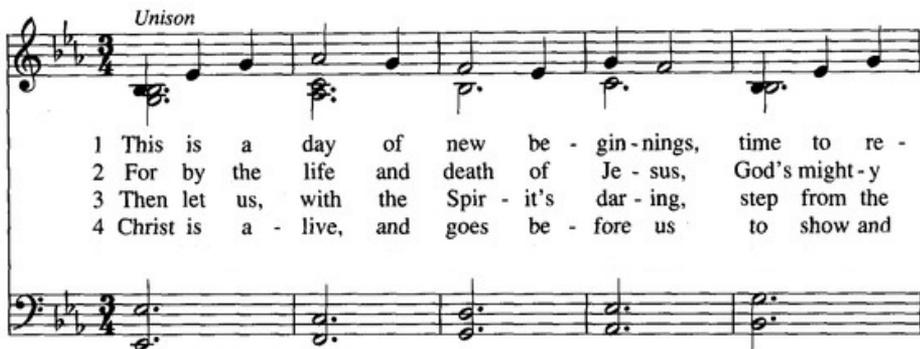
\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

# This Is a Day of New Beginnings

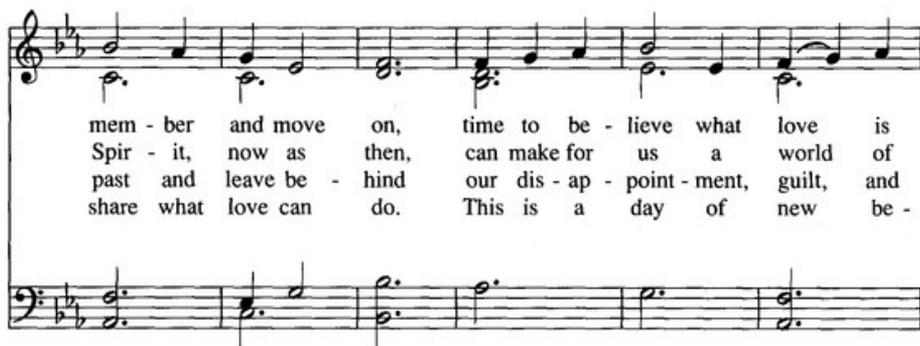
2 Cor. 5:16-17

Brian Wren, 1978; rev. 1983

Unison



1 This is a day of new be - gin - nings, time to re -  
2 For by the life and death of Je - sus, God's might - y  
3 Then let us, with the Spir - it's dar - ing, step from the  
4 Christ is a - live, and goes be - fore us to show and



mem - ber and move on, time to be - lieve what love is  
Spir - it, now as then, can make for us a world of  
past and leave be - hind our dis - ap - point - ment, guilt, and  
share what love can do. This is a day of new be -



bring - ing, lay - ing to rest the pain that's gone.  
dif - ference, as faith and hope are born a - gain.  
griev - ing, seek - ing new paths, and sure to find.  
gin - nings— our God is mak - ing all things new.

Brian Wren wrote this hymn in 1978 for a New Year's Day service in Oxford, England. The music is by the editor of two hymnals of the United Methodist Church and was composed for the original Wren text.

Tune: BEGINNINGS 9.8.9.8.  
Carlton R. Young, 1987

## GOING FORTH TO SERVE GOD

### \*HYMN

*Rejoice, Give Thanks and Sing*

New Century (black) Hymnal 303

### \*BENEDICTION

### \*CHORAL RESPONSE

### POSTLUDE

*Christ Lay in the Bonds of Death*

J. S. Bach (1685-1750)

*\* Please join us for Coffee Hour following the worship service.*

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### Music Notes:

Peter Mathews, composer of the Offertory Anthem, currently teaches Music History and Form & Analysis at the University of North Florida in Jacksonville, FL. The text of the anthem is from English poet, Robert Herrick (1591-1674), and is one of the most poignant poems about Christ's proper place in our lives.

*Christ, He requires still, wheresoe'er He comes,  
To feed, or lodge, to have the best of rooms:  
Give Him the choice; grant Him the nobler part  
Of all the house: the best of all's the heart.*

Harold Friedell was born in Jamaica, Queens, and while he was still a teenager, he assumed the organist position at his family's church, First Methodist in Jamaica. Later in life, he went on to serve congregations in Jersey City (St. John's Church), Calvary Church, and St. Bartholomew. "*Draw us in...*" is probably the most popular and biggest-selling anthem by Friedell.

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The flowers in the Meetinghouse this morning are given in memory of John D. Leinbach by his loving family.

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.

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### **Easter Flowers**

One additional Easter Flower Donation was made in loving memory of James Anderson III by Lydia Anderson.

### ***Calendar***

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#### **TODAY**

#### **Church School**

There are no regular church classes today but, instead, we will meet in a one-room schoolhouse format for children 5 – 10 years old. Older children are welcome to be helpers. Younger children are welcome in Child Care. Our special program will be held in Room 104 and begins after the Baptism in the Meetinghouse. Rosemary will invite the children to join her at the appropriate time. Parents can meet their children in Room 104 right after worship.

#### **Parish Nurse**

Sue Asselin, RN, is available for blood pressure screenings and health consultations in Room 203 following today's Worship Service.

#### **Choir Rehearsals**

Choir rehearsals today are: Children's Choir from 11:15 am to 12:00 noon in Room 303 (Craig's office); and Youth Choir from 11:15 am to 12:15 pm in the Choir Room. There is no Cherub Choir rehearsal today.

#### **Bible Study**

**The Sunday Bible Study** -- which if you haven't been to it before will liberate the term from your box -- resumes today at 11:20 am in the

Lounge. We're going to be considering the NONES, those who check NONE when they are asked about their religious affiliation. These are not necessarily atheists or even agnostics, just people who somewhere along the line got separated from any meaningful religious tradition. We will try to understand where they are coming from, discover that there were NONES around in the Bible and talk about how we can create a safe and loving place for people who are in search of a way out of noneness.



**Mid-Week Bible Study** -- Then on Thursday, at 10:15-11:15 am, there is a basic Bible Study class for people who may know nothing or next to nothing about the Bible but figure, "Hey, I'm a pretty educated person and faith is important to me. Why shouldn't I know at least something about the Bible so I can at least understand what questions to ask?" If that's you, come join us. Room 104. Both classes led by Dan England.



Come back today for the 5:00 pm service in the Auditorium. Mark Montgomery will lead with conversations and activities focusing on what it means for us to be a resurrected people. This is a casual service good for all ages, so come as you are and bring the whole family!

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## THIS WEEK

### *Nights Off Women's Fellowship Group*

*Nights Off* will not be meeting tomorrow, April 15, as previously announced. We will meet again in May on a date to be determined. Look out for further information. If you are not on the email list and would like to be, please email Shirley Flierl at [FBTWorld@aol.com](mailto:FBTWorld@aol.com).

### **Annual Quilt Raffle Tickets on Sale!**

Tickets for the 43rd Annual Quilt Raffle are now available for purchase for \$5 each. The drawing will take place at the *Women's Fellowship Spring Luncheon* on *Wednesday, May 15* at noon. You do not need to be present to win. The Kettle Quilters have created a beautiful queen size quilt in a "White on White" pattern this year. Tickets are being sold in the Church Office and an order form is included in the April Meetinghouse Monthly. All proceeds are donated to support charitable organizations that benefit women, children and families.



## Hats Off Book Discussion Group

*Hats Off* begins our spring reading with *Dear Life: Stories* by Alice Munro. "In story after story, she illumines the moment a life is forever altered by a chance encounter or an action not taken, or by a simple twist of fate that turns a person out of his or her accustomed path and into a new way of being or thinking." Most of these stories take place in Munro's home territory - the small Canadian towns around Lake Huron. Come join us on Thursday mornings from 10:00 -11:30 am in the Lounge. Any questions please call: Debbie Berner: 203-629-1110.



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## NEXT WEEK

### CROP Hunger Walk Next *Sunday, April 21, 2 pm*

CROP Hunger Walk is a two-mile course that starts at First Presbyterian Church in downtown Greenwich and ends at Christ Church, which is the home of Neighbor to Neighbor, the area's resource center to fight hunger. Please join us for this short walk, or consider donating money toward our goal of \$1,200. To donate or raise money (and walk!), pick up a donation envelope in the Auditorium or donate online at: [www.crophungerwalk.org/greenwichct](http://www.crophungerwalk.org/greenwichct).

### New Members Wanted: Come Learn About First Church!

Our next new member class will be held on *Sunday, April 21, 2013* at 11:15 am in the Senior Pastor's Office. It will last approximately 2 hours and will include lunch. During the class, prospective new members will have the opportunity to hear about the history and faith of our 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. New members will be received on Sunday, April 28. Child care will be provided at both times. Please feel welcome to join us. If you are planning to attend or you have questions, please contact Ginny Breismeister at [ginnyb@fccog.org](mailto:ginnyb@fccog.org) or 203-637-1791 ext. 26.



### Would You Like to Join Our Group of Gardeners Who Are Growing Food for Neighbor to Neighbor This Summer?

We are starting our 3rd season in the Armstrong Court Community Garden! Over the last 2 years we have grown and donated hundreds of pounds of organic vegetables to the food bank at Neighbor to Neighbor, serving many families in our community. The Spring volunteer days are

*Saturday, April 20* from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm and *Sunday April 21* from 1:00 to 5:00 pm when we rally all gardeners and other interested volunteers to tackle the jobs of getting the overall garden ready for the season. If you would like to join our merry band of gardeners come out to meet the team, see the possibilities and pitch in. If you are unsure about joining, come out anyway to check out this great community garden, give us a bit of help and then decide. We love teenagers and all levels of gardening experience are welcome! All tools provided - just bring your favorite work gloves. Contact Terri Browne Kutzen for info at 203-253-6264 or [tbk1@optonline.net](mailto:tbk1@optonline.net). Happy Spring!



### **Wonderful Wednesday Returns for the Spring**

Our next Wonderful Wednesday is *April 24* so mark your calendars for this “wonderful” spring event! Join us for dinner, fellowship, learning, fun and prayer. Dinner will be served at 6:00 pm and then we will break into groups led by Rev. Montgomery, Rev. Collins and Rev. England. Sue Asselin, Parish Nurse, will have some fun activities for the kids. (Please see the [April Meetinghouse Monthly](#) for descriptions of these groups.) The evening will conclude by 8:00 pm. **RSVP to Barbara Wilkov at [barbaraw@fccog.org](mailto:barbaraw@fccog.org) or call 203-637-1791 ext. 24 to let us know if you plan to attend.**

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## **NEWS AND NOTICES**

### **An Opportunity for Service for All**

On *Sunday, April 28*, right after worship, we will take a short drive over to Pilgrim Towers on Washington Court in Stamford. This is our annual Gardening Day - we prepare the beds, plant, transplant and mulch. Then, afterward, the residents provide and join us for lunch. All you need to do is let Rosemary ([RosemaryL@fccog.org](mailto:RosemaryL@fccog.org)) know you want to come and we do the rest. Pilgrim Towers is an apartment building built and partially supported by UCC congregations in Western Fairfield County. It is for seniors (singles and couples) who are independent and meet income guidelines as defined by HUD. Several members of our congregation are on the Board of Directors, including Joe McBride who is the President. Our Church School has been visiting three times a year for over 5 years.

### **Wellness Committee Second Hour Presentation**

*Sunday, April 28* - The Wellness Committee is pleased to present a Second Hour: *Care for Your Joints - Treatments for Joint Pain & Immobility*. We will welcome back Dr. Janet Freedman MD, a physiatrist with Greenwich Hospital's Physical Medicine Department. Dr. Freedman has 25 years of

experience in physical and rehabilitative medicine, treating pain or immobility of the knees, hips, shoulders and other joints. Join us as she explains various preventative measures, diagnostics, and treatments available for joint ailments. We will meet in the Lounge following the 10:00 am worship service.

### **Women's Fellowship Annual Meeting and Luncheon**

Notice of the Women's Fellowship Annual Meeting/Luncheon *Wednesday, May 15*, 11:30 am in the Auditorium. Quilt Raffle will take place at Noon followed by a catered luncheon. The entertainment this year will feature Mark Montgomery and John Collins. Reservations by check for \$10.00/person are a MUST. Please make checks payable to Women's Fellowship, Att: Annual Meeting, and send or leave at the Church Office by **Sunday, May 12**. We regret that we cannot accommodate reservations by phone, walk-ins, or reservations without payment.

### **Silver Lake Summer Programs**

Silver Lake Summer Programs are filling up! Information about this wonderful camp experience in Sharon, CT, sponsored by the CT UCC churches, is on the bulletin board outside the Lounge. The programs are for children going into the 4th grade right through high school. For more info, talk to Mark Montgomery or Rosemary Lamie or any of the 12 or so children from our church who have gone and keep going back! Also, check out our video of some of these kids talking about their camp experiences by going to [www.fccog.org](http://www.fccog.org) and clicking on the link on the homepage.



### **News from The Rummage Room**

*191 Sound Beach Avenue, Old Greenwich*

**Monday, April 15:** Manager Maria will have 4 or 5 categories of clothing and other items at 50% off for the week.

**Tuesday, April 16:** *The Annual "Thank You Breakfast"* for the 75 Rummage Room Volunteers, hosted by The Rummage Room Committee and Maria Drieghe, manager. The event will be held in the Church auditorium and breakfast will be served at 9:00 am. Volunteers, please note this date on your calendars and come join in the fellowship, fun and good food. Make your reservations either on the sign-up sheet at The Rummage Room or call Maria at 203-637-1875.

**Monday, April 22:** *Earth Day* - Earth Day is one of the causes embraced by The Rummage Room. All 'gently used' donations are cycled in and recycled right back out again. Then the yearly proceeds are recycled from The RR to the Allocations Committee and on to the many women, children, and family organizations sponsored by the Women's Fellowship.

**Shopping Hours:** Monday through Friday, 10:00 am to 5:00 pm and on Saturday, 10:00 am to 1:00 pm.

**Donation Hours:** Monday through Thursday, 9:30 am to 4:30 pm and on Friday and Saturday, 9:30 am to 12:30 pm.

**Manager's Wish List:** Gift donations for Mother's Day; hats; bridal dresses; mother-of-the-bride dresses (needed: two dresses in size 6); men's, women's, children's bikes; small furniture; prom dresses; and most of all: to clean-out your closets and bring your donations to The Rummage Room. And when you are donating, please come in and shop!!!! Thank you.

**Thought for the Week:** *Love is Action. It is Clear. It is Kind. It is Effortless and it is Irresistible.* -Byron Katie

**Thanks to all of The Rummage Room Volunteers.** You clearly love the action and the kind results of your efforts. If only it were effort-less! We repeat the praise that has described the work of Rummage Room volunteers for almost 50 years: *Thank you for a job well done!*

**Next Week at First Congregational Church**

**10:00 am Worship Service – Meetinghouse**

**The Chancel Choir:**

*O Clap Your Hands* by John Rutter

**The Children's Choir:**

*Sing Joyfully* by Michael Joseph

**Rev. Avery Manchester, preaching**

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Next week our 5:00 pm service will actually take place at **2:00 pm** as we worship with our feet! Get on your walking shoes to take an actual journey of faith as we join together to raise money and awareness during the **2013 CROP Hunger Walk**. The walk will begin at First Presbyterian Church in downtown Greenwich and conclude at Christ Episcopal Church, the home of Neighbor to Neighbor, one of the recipients of funds raised through the walk. Join us!



## ***First Music and Arts 2012-2013 Series Continues***

***Friday, April 26 through Sunday, April 28***

First Music and Arts will add visual arts to their community offerings when they partner with *The Art Society of Old Greenwich* who will have artwork on display in the Auditorium and a few pieces in the back of the Meetinghouse. One hour before and after each performance throughout the weekend, you will have a chance to view artwork from the membership of the Art Society. Be sure to tell your friends and neighbors about this wonderful opportunity to experience the talents of our local artists.

***Friday, April 26, 8:00 pm – Organ Recital***

Our wonderful Austin pipe organ will be heard in an organ recital by many Greenwich organists, including Jamie Hitel, Craig Scott Symons, Jon Hunt, Frederick Tripodi, Alistair Reid, and Sean Jackson.  
Suggested donation is \$20 per person.

***Sunday, April 28, 4:00 pm – Requiem by Johannes Brahms***

The First Church Festival Chorus will be using Brahms' own 4-hand piano version, with Jayson Engquist and Jon Hunt at the keyboard. Our soloists will be soprano Hanna Golodinskii and bass Samuel Hepler, all under the direction of Craig Scott Symons.  
Suggested donation is \$20 a person.

***Looking Ahead:***

***Sunday, May 19, 7:00 pm – Jubilate Ringers***

The Meetinghouse will be filled with the sounds of bells as we welcome the Jubilate Ringers from Wilton. This group is

conducted by Ellen Dickinson, Director of Music at Norfield Church in Weston. Jubilate Ringers is comprised of ringers from the Norfield Church and the Unitarian Church in Westport as well as the surrounding community.

Find us on [Facebook](#) and LIKE the page!  
(help us get to 200 “likes”!)

We're now on [Twitter](#) @FCCOGCT

Check out our [YouTube](#) page, too!



## *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

Interim Senior Pastor: Rev. John W. Collins

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

Associate Pastor for Communication/Adult Education: Rev. Daniel B. England

Associate Pastor for 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 Communications: 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