

*Old Greenwich,  
Connecticut*

THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL  
CHURCH OF GREENWICH

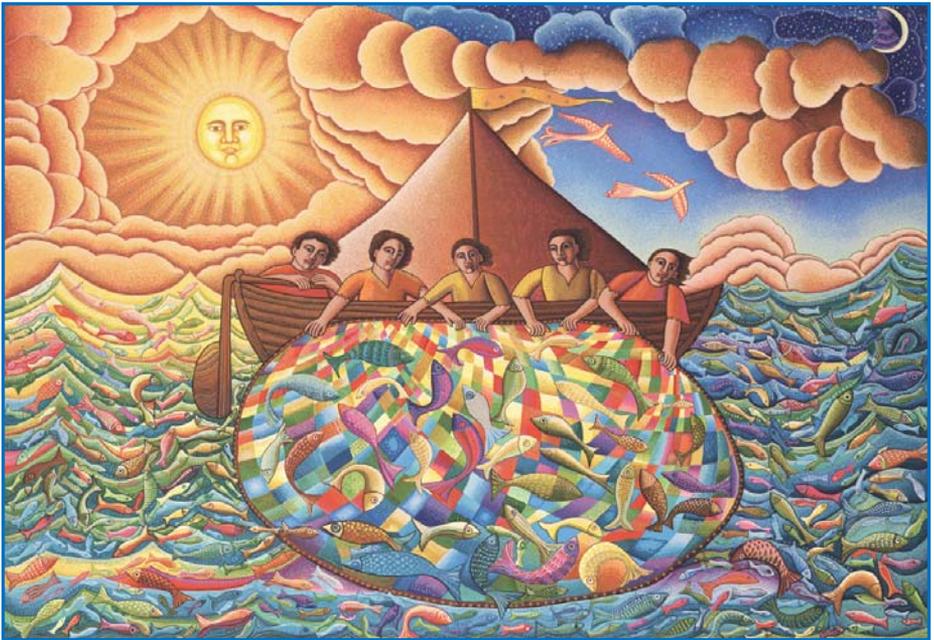
*United Church  
of Christ*

*Founded in 1665*

## The Fifth Sunday of Easter

28 April 2013

10 o'clock in the morning



*Great Catch*, Copyright 1993 by John August Swanson  
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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.*



**W**elcome to this service of worship at The First Congregational Church of Greenwich. We are glad you are here! Consider these words from Isaiah 49:

*Can a mother forget the infant at her breast, walk away from the baby she bore? But even if mothers forget, I'd never forget you—never. Look, I've written your names on the backs of my hands. The walls you're rebuilding are never out of my sight.*

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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**

*Dr. Craig Scott Symons, organ*  
*Symphonic Chorale on Ach bleib mit deiner Gnäde*  
Sigfrid Karg-Elert (1877-1933)

### **CALL TO COMMUNITY**

*Rev. John W. Collins*

*Please sign and pass the red book.*

### **PRAISING GOD**

#### **CALL TO WORSHIP**

*Leader: Come, people of God!*

*People: Let us give thanks for the God who connects all of humanity!*

*Leader: Come, children of God!*

*People: Whether young or old, we celebrate the wisdom of all ages.*

*Leader: Come, brothers and sisters!*

*People: Together, we represent the family of God and God's great hope for the world.*

*Leader: Come, let us worship together!*

*People: Come, let us worship together!*

**\*‡HYMN**

*Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise*

New Century (black) Hymnal 1

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

*Leader: We are called from complacency, from old habits, from places of challenge and from places of sorrow.*

*All: We are called to the voice of God who greets us, even in the midst of shadow, beckoning us into the light. Let us move into the sunlight, bravely exposing our flaws and joyfully recognizing the "God-parts" of ourselves so that as we worship we come just as we are created: as the people of God.*

*Leader: As God's created, called, loved and redeemed people, let us join together in Christ's prayer.*

*All: Our father...*

**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**

*Tennille Smith*

## HEARING GOD'S WORD

### FIRST LESSON

*Barbara Norrgard*

### John 21: 1-14

After 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.

### SCRIPTURE ANTHEM

*The Solid Rock*

*The Youth Choir*

Arr. Dale Peterson

*Carolyn Paulus, conductor*

*Vance Briceland, piano*

## John 21: 15-19

When they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, “Simon son of John, do you love me more than these?” He said to him, “Yes, Lord; you know that I love you.” Jesus said to him, “Feed my lambs.” A second time he said to him, “Simon son of John, do you love me?” He said to him, “Yes, Lord; you know that I love you.” Jesus said to him, “Tend my sheep.” He said to him the third time, “Simon son of John, do you love me?” Peter felt hurt because he said to him the third time, “Do you love me?” And he said to him, “Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you.” Jesus said to him, “Feed my sheep. Very truly, I tell you, when you were younger, you used to fasten your own belt and to go wherever you wished. But when you grow old, you will stretch out your hands, and someone else will fasten a belt around you and take you where you do not wish to go.” (He said this to indicate the kind of death by which he would glorify God.) After this he said to him, “Follow me.”

## \*‡HYMN

*When Peace, Like a River*

New Century (black) Hymnal 438

*(As the hymn begins, the 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

*Getting Back to Normal**Rev. Mark D. Montgomery***RESPONDING TO GOD**

## PASTORAL PRAYER

*Rev. Avery C. Manchester*

## CALL TO OFFERING



organs in some of the high-profile churches. His music is dense in texture, extremely detailed in his notation and the sounds required for the execution of his compositions. The prelude this morning is from one of his 3 larger works based on hymn tunes. The tune is not found in any recent hymnals, but last included in the Lutheran *Service Book and Hymnal* (1958), commonly known to life-long Lutherans as "the red hymnal."

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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.

## Calendar

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### TODAY

#### **Church School**

Church School classes meet today and will learn more about Paul. This week the children will hear the story of Paul and his friend, Barnabas. Ask your child(ren) what was so special about Barnabas. Today after Church School we will be going to Pilgrim Towers. Please see the details later in the bulletin. All are invited! Just let Rosemary know before we leave at 11:15.

#### **Choir Rehearsals**

Choir rehearsals today are: Cherub Choir from 11:15 am to 12 Noon in Room 104, Children's Choir from 11:15 am to 12 Noon in Room 303 (Craig's office) and Youth Choir from 11:15 am to 12:15 pm in the Choir Room.

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

Tickets for the 43rd Annual Quilt Raffle are now available for purchase during Coffee Hour starting today at \$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 also being sold in the Church Office and an order form can be found in the April (or upcoming May) Meetinghouse Monthly. All proceeds are donated to support charitable organizations that benefit women, children and families.



### **Bible Study**

There is **no** Sunday Bible Study today. It will return next Sunday, May 5, at 11:20 am in the Lounge.

### **Wellness Second Hour**

*Care for Your Joints - Treatments for Joint Pain & Immobility.* The Wellness Committee is pleased to present Dr. Janet Freedman MD, a physiatrist with Greenwich Hospital’s Physical Medicine Department. She 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.



### **A Community Service Opportunity for All Ages**

*Today*, 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 will provide and join us for lunch. 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.



There is **no** 5:00 pm linc service today. It will return next Sunday, May 5 in the Auditorium.

## First Music and Arts Spring Festival Continues...

Join us *this afternoon at 4:00 pm* for a very special performance of **Johannes Brahms' Requiem** by The First Church Festival Chorus; Jayson Engquist and Jon Hunt, pianists; Samuel Hepler, baritone; Hanna Golodinskii, soprano; Craig Scott Symons, conductor. Admission is \$20. Also, come early before the show to view artwork by the talented artists of *The Art Society of Old Greenwich*.

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## THIS WEEK

### Mid-Week Bible Study

Join our Mid-Week Bible Study this *Thursday, May 2*, in Room 203.

As a reminder, this 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?" Led by Dan England.



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## NEWS AND NOTICES

### 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: Irene Savage, 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 continue to fill 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*

**An Appeal to our Shoppers and Donors:** The bitter winter and late spring season has not been kind to The Rummage Room. Now that the weather has become more spring-like, Manager, Maria, and The Rummage Room Committee ask that you *please* clean out your closets and cabinets and bring in your donations. For our mission projects to be well funded in 2013 we need fresh merchandise to sell and we **know** you will want to help. Then once your closets and drawers are cleaned out, you'll want to come and shop at **"The Best Little Shop in Town!"**



**History:** The Women's Fellowship began having rummage sales in the basement of the church on a twice a year basis in the 1950's. On October 1, 1964 (49 years ago this October), the Women's Fellowship opened a shop called "The Rummage Room" at its present location, which previously had been the location of the Old Greenwich Post Office. The first manager of The Rummage Room was Betty Edgars, who recently passed away in Florida.

**Mission Statement:** Our mission has *always* been about raising money to be allocated to organizations that benefit women, children and families in need of assistance. Through the years we have literally given millions of dollars to projects in the following areas, both at home and abroad. Here are a few of these projects: Anti-violence; housing; clothing; adult and child education; hunger prevention; women's rights; Kids in Crisis; Planned Parenthood, senior services; and female soldiers, the forgotten heroes. There are so many people out there who depend on our help!

**What Do We Need?:** Good jewelry; women's hats and handbags; items for Mother's Day gifts; dresses and boys' sport coats for confirmation and communion; bikes for all ages; baby strollers and a baby walker; small furniture; a pair of size 10 roller blades; good bric-a-brac; clothing; shoes.

**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.

*Life is a series of tiny miracles so, if we want to change the world, we need to care about one person at a time. Collectively, our hope is that these acts of caring and kindness will help stem the tide of death and destruction that have hit us in so many places.*

### **Tai Chi Fitness with Luis Duarte**

Improve your balance, health and well being. Come and experience the many wonderful benefits of Tai Chi and Qi Gong. 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! **Good for all levels.**

### **Next Week at First Congregational Church**

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

**The Chancel Choir:**

*God Is Gone Up* by Gerald Finzi

*Sweet Is Thy Mercy* by Joseph Bamby

**The Cherub Choir:**

*Kumbaya*, Traditional

**Rev. Dan England, preaching**

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The wonderful worship opportunities here at FCCOG continue at 5:00 pm with our casual *linc* service. This worship is appropriate for all ages, so come as you are and bring the whole family!



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

### *Continues*

#### *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.

#### *Friday, June 7, 7:30 pm – The Faith Singers*

The Faith Singers is a 16-voice youth choir from Countryside UCC in Omaha, Nebraska. They will be on tour in the New England area and we are their 2nd stop across the region. Jim Larrabee is their director, who serves as Director of Music at Countryside Church, and is also the national president of the UCC Musician's Association, an organization of church musicians within the denomination, which was "birthed" here at First Church in 1994.

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

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

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### *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