

*Old Greenwich,
Connecticut*

**THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL
CHURCH OF GREENWICH**

*United Church
of Christ*

Celebrating 350 Years - 1665-2015

Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

16 August 2015

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 late summer morning. In this hour of prayer and inspiration, we invite you to set aside the burdens of life and open your heart to God's graceful Spirit.

PREPARING FOR WORSHIP

Please silence all cell phones and other electronic devices.

*All who are able please stand.

PRELUDE

Air and Gavotte

Dr. Craig Scott Symons, organ
Samuel Wesley (1766-1837)

CALL TO COMMUNITY

Please sign and pass the red book.

Rev. Richard S. DenUyl, Jr.

FIRST CHURCH FLASHBACK

Pat Larrabee

PRAISING GOD

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Leader: People of God, look about creation and see the faces of those we know and love – neighbors and friends, brothers and sisters – a communion of kindred hearts.

People: Look about and see the faces of those we hardly know – strangers, sojourners, summer visitors, all here to give thanks and praise to God.

Leader: People of God, look about and see the images of God assembled here today.

People: In me, in you, in each of us everywhere. God's Spirit shines for all to see!

CHORAL INTROIT

***HYMN**

Sing Praise to God, Who Reigns Above Pilgrim (red) Hymnal 20

UNISON PRAYER

Holy God, you have called us to live in faith and freedom, but we live with tightness in our chests. You have called us to rise up and move faithfully in a new direction, but we cling to the habits we know, even when they are not good for us. You have called us to reach out to others with love and forgiveness, instead we harbor old hurts and grudges. Be with us, Lord. Help us to let go of everything that is keeping us from experiencing your healing and hope, your love and your peace, that peace which passes all understanding. Amen.

HEARING GOD'S WORD

FIRST LESSON

Barbara Norrgard

Numbers 11:1-6

Now when the people complained in the hearing of the Lord about their misfortunes, the Lord heard it and his anger was kindled. Then the fire of the Lord burned against them, and consumed some outlying parts of the camp. But the people cried out to Moses; and Moses prayed to the Lord, and the fire abated. So that place was called Taberah, because the fire of the Lord burned against them.

The rabble among them had a strong craving; and the Israelites also wept again, and said, "If only we had meat to eat! We remember the fish we used to eat in Egypt for nothing, the cucumbers, the melons, the leeks, the onions, and the garlic; but now our strength is dried up, and there is nothing at all but this manna to look at."

From New Revised Standard Version

ANTHEM

Joys Are Flowing Like a River

The Summer Choir

Jay Thomas

*Joys are flowing like a river,
Since the Comforter has come;
Christ abides with us forever,
Makes the trusting heart a home.*

*Bringing life and health and gladness,
All around this heav'nly Guest;
Banished unbelief and sadness,
Changed our weariness to rest.*

*Like the rain that falls from heaven,
Like the sunlight from the sky,
So the Spirit too is given,
Comes upon us from on high.*

*See a fruitful field is growing,
blessed fruit of righteousness
and the streams of life are flowing
in the lonely wilderness.*

*What a wonderful salvation,
Where we always see Christ's face!
What a peaceful habitation!
What a quiet resting-place!*

SECOND LESSON

Jean Watkins

John 5:1-16

After this there was a festival of the Jews, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. Now in Jerusalem by the Sheep Gate there is a pool, called in Hebrew Beth-zatha, which has five porticoes. In these lay many invalids—blind, lame, and paralyzed. One man was there who had been ill for thirty-eight years. When Jesus saw him lying there and knew that he had been there a long time, he said to him, “Do you want to be made well?” The sick man answered him, “Sir, I have no one to put me into the pool when the water is stirred up; and while I am making my way, someone else steps down ahead of me.” Jesus said to him, “Stand up, take your mat and walk.” At once the man was made well, and he took up his mat and began to walk.

Now that day was a sabbath. So the Religious Ones said to the man who had been cured, “It is the sabbath; it is not lawful for you to carry your mat.” But he answered them, “The man who made me well said to me, ‘Take up your mat and walk.’” They asked him,

“Who is the man who said to you, ‘Take it up and walk?’” Now the man who had been healed did not know who it was, for Jesus had disappeared in the crowd that was there. Later Jesus found him in the temple and said to him, “See, you have been made well! Do not sin any more, so that nothing worse happens to you.” The man went away and told the Religious Ones that it was Jesus who had made him well. Therefore the Devout started persecuting Jesus, because he was doing such things on the sabbath.

From *New Revised Standard Version*

***HYMN**

Stand Up and Bless the Lord

Pilgrim (red) Hymnal 25

SERMON

Getting Up and Moving On

Rev. Richard S. DenUyl, Jr.

PASTORAL PRAYER

LORD'S PRAYER (*“debts”*)

RESPONDING TO GOD

CALL TO OFFERING

ORGAN OFFERTORY

Pastorale

Louis Lefébure-Wely (1817-1869)

***DOXOLOGY**

Pilgrim (red) Hymnal 515

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise him, all creatures here below; Praise him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

GOING FORTH TO SERVE GOD

***HYMN**

This Is the Day of New Beginnings (verses 1-4)

New Century (black) Hymnal 417

*BENEDICTION

*CHORAL RESPONSE

POSTLUDE

Processional

Stanley Vann (b. 1910)

* * *

*Please join us for Fellowship Hour in the
Memory Garden (weather permitting) following the worship service.*

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. Please see an usher if you need directions to child care.

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.

Calendar

TODAY

Church School

Bible Stories at the Beach will continue at our 8:00 am Beach Service on August 23, 30, September 6 and 13. Although there are no formal Church School classes at this 10:00 am service in the summer, we do have adults and teenagers who can provide activities for your child during worship. These activities take place in the Preschool area and any usher can direct you.

Parish Nurse

Sue Asselin, RN, is available for blood pressure screenings and health consultations following today's worship service. If our Fellowship Hour is held outside, Sue will be in the Memory Garden. If held inside due to the weather, Sue will be available in the Church Office.

THIS WEEK

Nights Off Women's Group Gathering – All Welcome!

Weather-permitting, the *Nights Off* Women's Group will meet tomorrow, **Monday, August 17** at Greenwich Point. For anyone who is in town and interested, please meet us at **6:00 pm** at the beach for a great time to socialize and catch up on what everyone is doing this summer. Please bring a snack to share and whatever you would like to drink. Look for the group after going around the point past the Yacht Club and the sailing school. We will gather at one of the picnic tables along the water, so just start down the path from the parking lot and look for us. All are always welcome to our *Nights Off* gatherings. Please join us and bring a friend along!



September Meetinghouse Monthly Deadline

September will be here before we know it! The deadline for materials to be submitted for inclusion in the **September Meetinghouse Monthly** newsletter is tomorrow, **Monday, August 17**. Please submit your materials or direct any questions to Barbara Wilkov at barbaraw@fccog.org.

NEXT WEEK

Summer Beach Services

Beach Services are held at 8:00 am at Greenwich Point throughout the summer (through September 13), weather permitting. Communion is served every Sunday. Come and join us for this casual service. Summer Church School will also take place at this time down at the beach, so bring the whole family! If the Beach Service is cancelled due to inclement weather, a notice in red will be posted on our website by 7:30 am and a white piece of paper will be taped to the sermon sign on the church lawn. The 10:00 am service in the Meetinghouse will continue every Sunday throughout the summer.

NEWS AND NOTICES

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

AUGUST CALENDAR:

Monday, August 24: The Rummage Room will be celebrating its 51st Grand 'Reopening.' The doors will open at 10:00 am, so mark your calendars and plan to be there to shop for great merchandise. There is nothing quite like the **Grand Reopening!** If you have ever been there on Reopening Day, you will probably agree it's like the "9th Wonder of the World!"

Ode to The Rummage Room:

*Tw'as the week before Opening, and all moved with haste,
To make sure the merchandise was arranged in its place.
The clothing was hung on the hangers with care,
In hopes that loyal customers soon would be there!
The shelves were a-bulging with many good buys,
Purses for the ladies and ties for the guys.
This may be the best Reopening in our 50 year history
And raising over 4 million dollars will never be a mystery!*

Thank You: Manager Maria wishes to express her deep appreciation to all the volunteers who gave of their time to help clean and restock The Rummage Room while closed during the month of August. Many thanks to Barbara Wilkov, Director of Communications at FCCOG who covers the press for The Rummage Room and helps with many other related activities. The Rummage Room's mission has always been to provide funds to organizations who help make life better for women and children locally and throughout the world.

Tai Chi Classes

Come and experience the many wonderful benefits of Tai Chi and Qi Gong exercises. Classes are held on **Wednesdays** at 8:00 am and **Thursdays** at 9:00 am. Only \$10 per class. Drop-ins are welcome.

Neighbor to Neighbor – Food Collection

Please don't forget those in need. **Items especially needed are canned meats, such as Spam, chili, etc.** Tuna is **not** needed at this time. Also, cereal, canned fruit, pasta, peanut butter, jelly, sheets & towels.

Next Week at First Congregational Church
August 23, 2015

8:00 am Beach Service at Greenwich Point
10:00 am Worship Service in the Meetinghouse

Music by The Summer Choir
O Love, How Deep by Eric Thiman

Rev. Richard DenUyl, Jr., preaching

Where to find us:

www.fccog.org

Facebook

Twitter

YouTube

Instagram



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 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

Office Manager/Sr. Administrative Assistant: Donna White

Director of Membership: Ginny Breismeister

Director of Communications: Barbara Wilkov

Parish Nurse: Susan Asselin, RN

Director of Preschool: Darla Kohler Steiner

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

Director of Music Emeritus: Dr. John Stansell