

*Old Greenwich,  
Connecticut*

THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL  
CHURCH OF GREENWICH

*United Church  
of Christ*

*Celebrating 350 Years - 1665-2015*

## Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

30 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.*



We greet you with joy as you join us for worship here at The First Congregational Church of Greenwich this late summer morning. As we quiet our souls and seek God's healing Spirit, may your spirit feel God's deep peace of renewal.

---

**PREPARING FOR WORSHIP**

Please silence all cell phones and other electronic devices.

\*All who are able please stand.

**PRELUDE**

*Allegro Con Brio*

*Dr. Craig Scott Symons, organ*

Charles Villiers Stanford (1852-1924)

**CALL TO COMMUNITY**

*Please sign and pass the red book.*

*Wendy Reynolds, Deacon*

**FIRST CHURCH FLASHBACK**

*Car Westbrook*

**SPECIAL RECOGNITION FOR MARIA DRIEGHE**

*Mary Jane Penwell, Rummage Room Volunteer*

**PRAISING GOD**

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP**

*Leader: God's touch of hope meets us in unexpected places.*

*People: God's touch of kindness walks toward us when we are most alone.*

*Leader: God's touch of healing reaches down into the depths of our souls.*

*People: Let us open our hearts that we might be touched by God's love and surprised by God's grace.*

**CHORAL INTROIT**

**\*HYMN**

*O Word of God Incarnate*

Pilgrim (red) Hymnal 252

## OPENING PRAYER *(in unison)*

Eternal God, we gather today to thank you for creating the world and all living creatures. We come seeking the light of your Spirit and to live together as the people of Christ. Give us the strength to honor our covenant with you, that our souls might be restored in moments of doubt. Grant us the courage and insight to extend the grace of Christ to all we meet. Grant us your peaceful blessing as we journey through our lives. Amen.

## SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

*Harrison John Ledger,*

*son of Nicole Zeoli Ledger and Nicholas Ledger*

## 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 **Harrison** 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 (*"debts"*)

## 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.*

## HEARING GOD'S WORD

### FIRST LESSON

*Olga Hartwell*

### Psalm 100

**M**ake a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth. Worship the Lord with gladness; come into his presence with singing.

Know that the Lord is God. It is he that made us, and we are his; we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.

Enter his gates with thanksgiving, and his courts with praise. Give thanks to him, bless his name.

For the Lord is good; his steadfast love endures forever, and his faithfulness to all generations. *From New Revised Standard Version*

## SECOND LESSON

### Ephesians 3:14-21

**F**or this reason I bow my knees before the Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth takes its name. I pray that, according to the riches of his glory, he may grant that you may be strengthened in your inner being with power through his Spirit, and that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith, as you are being rooted and grounded in love. I pray that you may have the power to comprehend, with all the saints, what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, so that you may be filled with all the fullness of God. Now to him who by the power at work within us is able to accomplish abundantly far more than all we can ask or imagine, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen. *From New Revised Standard Version*

### \*HYMN

*Sing Them Over Again to Me* New Century (black) Hymnal 319

### SERMON

*I Love to Tell the Story* Rev. Dr. Tom Stiers, Guest Preacher

### PASTORAL PRAYER

## RESPONDING TO GOD

### CALL TO OFFERING

**OFFERTORY ANTHEM**

*The Summer Choir*  
*Hanna Golodinskii, soprano*  
Richard Shephard (b. 1949)

*The Secret of Christ*

*For a long time I have held my peace, but now will I speak. I will lead the blind in a way they know not, in paths that they have not known I will guide them.*

*I will turn their darkness into light, and I will not forsake them. And he showed me a pure river of the water of life, clear as crystal, proceeding out of the throne of God; and on either side of the river was there a tree of life, and the leaves of the trees were for the healing of the nations.*

*Help us, Lord, to persevere in prayer with minds awake and thankful hearts, that we may share the secret of Christ with those we meet on our earthly pilgrimage, following in the steps of Jesus, our Master and our Friend. Amen.*

*-Text from Isaiah 42, Revelation 22, and The Pilgrim Prayer.*

**\*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**

*I Love to Tell the Story*

New Century (black) Hymnal 522

**\*BENEDICTION**

**\*CHORAL RESPONSE**

**POSTLUDE**

*Prelude on Song 22*

Charles Villiers Stanford

\* \* \*

*Please join us following the worship service for a very special Fellowship Hour in the Memory Garden (weather permitting) to honor Rummage Room Manager Maria Drieghe.*

---

**Our Guest Preacher today is Rev. Dr. Tom Stiers** who, for those of you who may not know, began as an Associate Pastor here at First Church in 1974 and was then our Senior Pastor from 1977 until 2003. During Tom's tenure he initiated the Pastor's Advisory Committee, the Columbarium was added, a new organ was purchased, the Parish Nurse position was created and we adopted a policy of Open and Affirming. Tom is now Pastor Emeritus here at First Church and we extend a very warm and enthusiastic welcome to him today.

The flowers in the Meetinghouse this morning are given in celebration of the baptism of Harrison John Ledger, son of Nicole and Nicholas Ledger, by his family.

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](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

---

**TODAY**

#### **Church School**

*Bible Stories at the Beach* at our 8:00 am Beach Service **ends next Sunday September 6**. 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.

---

## NEXT WEEK

### Summer Beach Services

Beach Services are held at 8:00 am at Greenwich Point throughout the summer (through Sept 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

### Caregivers Support Group in September

Due to Labor Day Weekend, our Caregivers Support Group will meet on *Sunday, September 13* from 11:15 am to 12:00 pm in the Binney Conference Room. Normally we meet the 1st Sunday of the month. This group is for those who currently are, or recently have been, a caregiver for a family member or friend. Dorothy Mueller, FCCOG Stephen Minister is the group facilitator and can be reached at 203-588-9896 or email: [dorothymueller1@gmail.com](mailto:dorothymueller1@gmail.com).

### News from The Rummage Room

#### *191 Sound Beach Avenue, Old Greenwich*

*Today, Sunday, August 30:* Manager Maria Drieghe will be honored during today's service for her 20 wonderful years at The Rummage Room! Maria is retiring tomorrow, August 31, so if you weren't able to get to The Rummage Room yet, please drop by tomorrow to say goodbye to Maria, and, at the same time, meet the new Rummage Room Manager, Leanne Meyer.

**The 51<sup>st</sup> Grand Reopening on Monday, August 24 was a grand opening, indeed, for The Rummage Room!** Sales for Reopening Day were \$12,300! Tuesday sales were over \$6,000. The Rummage Room Committee and Manager Maria Drieghe are deeply grateful to

loyal customers, donors, and volunteers for all the effort that went into making the two days so outstanding. It is true that The Rummage Room is “The Best Little Shop in Town!” ‘New’ merchandise is brought out every day. It has been held back for a year so it is impossible to put it all out on Reopening Day! That means there is still a lot of great merchandise waiting for you!

**Monday, September 7:** The Rummage Room is closed for Labor Day. The shop will reopen on Tuesday, September 8.

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

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

**Wish List:** Fall and winter clothing; a double stroller; children’s clothing; good jewelry; good handbags. Please donate only clean and saleable merchandise.

*After the worship service today, we will move to the Memory Garden for coffee and treats. Please come by and have a personal moment with Maria.*

### **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*  
*September 6, 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. Avery Manchester, Preaching*

Where to find us:

[www.fccog.org](http://www.fccog.org)

Facebook

Twitter

YouTube

Instagram



# A Photo Tribute to Maria Drieghe



*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

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