

*Old Greenwich,
Connecticut*

**THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL
CHURCH OF GREENWICH**

*United Church
of Christ*

Founded in 1665

The Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

4 August 2013

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 warmly welcome you to worship this morning at First Congregational Church of Greenwich as we continue to bask in the relaxing season of summer. Wherever you are on life's journey, we are glad you are here to share these moments of music, prayer and inspiration. We also hope you will stay after worship for our Coffee Hour in the Memory Garden which is to the left of the vestibule as you leave. May you feel God's relaxing Spirit as we worship together.

PREPARING FOR WORSHIP

Please silence all cell phones and other electronic devices.

*All who are able please stand.

‡Seating of latecomers.

PRELUDE

Canzona

Dr. Craig Scott Symons, organ
Johann Pachelbel (1653-1706)

CALL TO COMMUNITY

Please sign and pass the red book.

Rev. John W. Collins

PRAISING GOD

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Today we are called to this sacred place from the stress and noise of our daily lives.

People: Let us put down the burdens of our living and open our spirits to God's calming grace.

Leader: Today we are called to this sacred place to remember the richness of God's blessings.

People: Let us take the time to be deeply grateful for all we have received.

Leader: Today we are called to this sacred place to deepen our compassion for others.

People: Let us reach out in relentless love to those in need.

***‡HYMN**

There's a Spirit in the Air

New Century (black) Hymnal 294

OPENING PRAYER

Infinite God, as the hand is made for holding and the eye for seeing, you have fashioned our lives for joy. Share with us the vision that sees joy in all things: in the wild violet's beauty, in the birdsong of morning, in the faces of strangers, in a child's laugh, in a parent's love, in the ever present wonder of your creation. May unexpected joy find us even in the struggles of life, and may we remember that your graceful joy is our birthright. We ask in Jesus' name, whose prayer we pray 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.

*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.

HEARING GOD'S WORD

FIRST LESSON

Olga Hartwell

1 Corinthians 13:8-13

Love never ends. But as for prophecies, they will come to an end; as for tongues, they will cease; as for knowledge, it will come to an end. For we know only in part, and we prophesy only in part; but when the complete comes, the partial will come to an end. When I was a child, I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child; when I became an adult, I put an end to childish ways. For now we see in a mirror, dimly, but then we will see face to face. Now I know only in part; then I will know fully, even as I have been fully known. And now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; and the greatest of these is love.

From *NRSV*

ANTHEM

Lord of the Worlds Above

The Summer Choir

Eric Thiman (1900-1975)

SECOND LESSON

1 John 4:7-12

Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us.

From *NRSV*

*‡HYMN

O Word of God Incarnate

New Century (black) Hymnal 315

SERMON

Perhaps Love

Rev. John W. Collins

RESPONDING TO GOD

PASTORAL PRAYER

Rev. Mark D. Montgomery

CALL TO OFFERING

Rev. Daniel B. England

OFFERTORY SOLO

Sicilienne

Mary Fike, flute

Gabriel Fauré (1845-1924)

*DOXOLOGY

New Century (black) Hymnal 776

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise Christ, all creatures here below; Praise Holy Spirit, Comforter; One God, Triune, whom we adore. Amen. Amen.

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

RECEIVING OF THE BREAD AND CUP

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING *(in unison)*

We thank you, O God, for these moments of communion with you and each other. By these actions, we have renewed our commitment to bear your name and to follow you wherever you lead us. O Lord God, your great name be praised. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

GOING FORTH TO SERVE GOD

*HYMN

Praise the Lord!

Pilgrim (red) Hymnal 13

*BENEDICTION

*CHORAL RESPONSE

POSTLUDE

Tocatta in E minor

Johann Pachelbel

*Please join us for Coffee Hour following the worship service.
Weather permitting, we will meet in the Memory Garden.*

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. 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

Summer Church School (*Bible Stories at the Beach*) is on hiatus until the first two weeks of September (Sept. 1 & 8). **At the 10:00 am service** we have Child Care for infants through 4 years old. Today we are in Room 104 which is at the bottom of both stairways leading to the preschool main entrance. Ushers are able to direct you.

NEXT WEEK

Summer Choir

Please join us on Sunday mornings this summer at 9:00 am in the Meetinghouse for a warm-up and rehearsal for the music being done that Sunday. Everyone is welcome to come before the start of the service to learn a simple anthem. Come any Sundays that you are available to help lead the congregation in worship. It's also a chance to experience worship from the choir loft. If you have any questions, please contact Craig Symons (ext. 22).



NEWS AND NOTICES

Volunteers Still Needed!

It's that time again, when The Rummage Room is in need of volunteers to help clean out and restock the store. The restocking days are *Thursday, August 8* and *Friday, August 9*, 9:00 am both days. Please sign up at The Rummage Room or call 203-637-1875. Hope to see you there! This is a perfect opportunity for our high school students to rack up some Community Service hours and Maria has put a "shout out" to you especially!

Bible Study Online

Tune in online each week for a 5-minute Bible Study by going to the church website at: <http://www.fccog.org/faith-formation/adult-opportunities/bible-study/> (Home Page to Faith Formation tab to Adult Opportunities to Bible Study). Sometimes the Scripture

passage discussed will tie into the Church School lesson and sometimes it will preview the lesson for the worship service. And sometimes it will be just about an interesting passage.

FCCOG is now on Instagram!

Check us out at <http://instagram.com/fccogct> and follow us!

Facebook Update

We currently have 196 Facebook page “likes.” Can you help us hit 200?? Please take a moment **today** to “Like” the **First Church Facebook page**. It's easy and a great way to keep up to date with many of the wonderful things we have going on at church and to let your friends know about us as well.



News from The Rummage Room

191 Sound Beach Avenue, Old Greenwich

August Calendar:

The Rummage Room is now closed for repairs and restocking. PLEASE DO NOT LEAVE DONATIONS WHILE THE SHOP IS CLOSED! The donations will not be processed. Save and bring them Tuesday, August 27 from 9:30 am to 4:30 pm.

Mon, August 26 – The Rummage Room will celebrate its 49th Grand Reopening! Open 10 am to 5 pm.

Mark your calendar, as **Opening Week** is the "BIGGEST EVENT OF THE YEAR!" The shop is restocked with all 'new' quality merchandise every day.

Every time you shop or donate at The Rummage Room, you are providing comfort to those less fortunate. It is a 49 year tradition thanks to our Shoppers, Donators, Staff and Volunteers. While we can't name all who contribute so much of their time and talent week in and week out, we can recognize our wonderful volunteers; our wonderful manager, Maria Drieghe and our assistant managers, Nancy Hamilton, Connie Fauci, Veronica Klinka and Betty Shopovick. The Rummage Room wouldn't be the “9th Wonder of the World” without ALL who contribute to its success.

Tai Chi Fitness with Luis Duarte

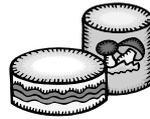
Improve your balance, health and well being. Come and experience the many wonderful benefits of Tai Chi and Qi Gong exercises.

Classes will be held on **Thursdays** at 9:00 am throughout the summer. (Wednesday morning classes will return in the fall). Only \$7 per class if paid by the month, and \$8 per class for “drop ins.” Join us! You’ll love it! **All are welcome.**

Food Collection

There continues to be great need for food at Neighbor to Neighbor. Please remember to contribute each week. The Food Collection Barrel remains in the back of the Meetinghouse. Items especially needed include:

- Canned fruit
- Canned meat (i.e. Chili, Spam)
- Peanut butter (18 oz)
- Jelly (18 oz)
- Cereal
- Soup



Find us on [Facebook](#) and LIKE the page!

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

Check out our [YouTube](#) page!

And now we're on [Instagram](#) too!



Next Week at First Congregational Church

10:00 am Worship Service – Meetinghouse

Music by:

The Summer Choir

Let All Things Now Living by Katherine K. Davis

Rev. John Collins, preaching

* * *

get connected **smilinc** *Beach Service*

Beach Services are held each Sunday at 8:00 am at Greenwich Point (weather permitting). Communion is served. Come and join us for this casual service.

Bible Stories at the Beach, our Summer Church School, is on hiatus during August and will return on September 1 & 8!



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

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