

*Old Greenwich,
Connecticut*

THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL
CHURCH OF GREENWICH

*United Church
of Christ*

Founded in 1665

The Second Sunday in Lent

24 February 2013

10 o'clock in the morning



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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.

We hope that the bleak of February will lose its power over you as you feel the warmth of the service this morning. If you are visiting with us this morning, we bid you a special welcome and hope that you will join us for coffee in the auditorium (ask any usher for directions) after we meet this morning. May the Spirit of God envelope and fill you this morning with his Christ's goodness and love.

PREPARING FOR WORSHIP

Please silence all cell phones and other electronic devices.

*All who are able please stand.

‡Seating of latecomers.

PRELUDE

Prelude in F minor

Dr. Craig Scott Symons, organ
Marcel Dupré (1886-1971)

CALL TO COMMUNITY

Please sign and pass the red book.

Rev. Daniel B. England

MOMENT OF OPPORTUNITY – “Keep the Faith”

PRAISING GOD

CALL TO WORSHIP

Some of us come from a place nearby,
but with a heart far away.

Some us come from familiar landscapes,
but with disconcerted souls.

Some of us have almost everything,
but need something more.

All of us have grace extended to us
with no reservation at all.

The Psalmist says that the fear of the Lord
is the beginning of wisdom.

Let us worship God.

*‡HYMN

When Morning Gilds the Skies

Pilgrim (red) Hymnal 35

OPENING PRAYER (*in unison*)

O Lord, open our hearts, our minds, our ears and our emotions to hear your voice and the willingness to respond. Help us to name in this hour the names of those who are close to us and to learn the names of strangers who might cross our path. Speak to us, we pray, by words, by music, by a warm encouragement and recognition. Above all, help us to understand anew the great love you have for us in Jesus Christ, in whose name we offer this prayer...

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.

*RESPONSE

New Century (black) Hymnal 208 (verse 1)

God loved the world, and loving gave a wondrous gift, the lost to save, that all who would in Christ believe should everlasting life receive.

ANTHEM

O Give Thanks and Sing

The Children's Choir

Harriet Willoughby

Elizabeth Mohn, flute

HEARING GOD'S WORD

FIRST LESSON

Pat Mendelsohn

Mark 6:6b-13

(Note: This is the lesson the Church School children will be learning about in class today)

Then he went about among the villages teaching. He called the twelve and began to send them out two by two, and gave them authority over the unclean spirits. He ordered them to take nothing for their journey except a staff; no bread, no bag, no money in their belts; but to wear sandals and not to put on two tunics. He said to them, "Wherever you enter a house, stay there until you leave the place. If any place will not welcome you and they refuse to hear you, as you leave, shake off the dust that is on your feet as a testimony against them." So they went out and proclaimed that all should repent. They cast out many demons, and anointed with oil many who were sick and cured them.

From *NRSV*

SCRIPTURE ANTHEM

He Never Failed Me Yet

The Chancel Choir

Arr. Robert Ray (b. 1946)

SECOND LESSON

Mark 8:1-10

In those days when there was again a great crowd without anything to eat, he called his disciples and said to them, "I have compassion for the crowd, because they have been with me now for three days and have nothing to eat. If I send them away hungry to their homes, they will faint on the way—and some of them have come from a great distance." His disciples replied, "How can one feed these people with bread here in the desert?" He asked them, "How many loaves do you have?" They said, "Seven." Then he ordered the crowd to sit down on the ground; and he took the seven loaves, and after giving thanks he broke them and gave them to his disciples to distribute; and they distributed them to the crowd. They had also a few small fish; and after blessing them, he ordered that these too should be distributed. They ate and were filled; and they took up the broken pieces left over, seven baskets full. Now there were about four thousand people. And he sent them away. And immediately he got into the boat with his disciples and went to the district of Dalmanutha.

From *NRSV*

*‡HYMN

Glory, Glory Hallelujah

New Century (black) Hymnal 2

(During the hymn, the Church School 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

Minding the Memory

Dr. Maureen Matthews

Dr. William Matthews

RESPONDING TO GOD

PASTORAL PRAYER

Rev. Mark D. Montgomery

CALL TO OFFERING

Rev. Avery C. Manchester

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

The Chancel Choir

Ev'ry Time I Feel the Spirit

Arr. William Dawson (1899-1990)

Vasil Golodinskii, bass

***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**

GOING FORTH TO SERVE GOD

***HYMN**

Come, We Who Love God's Name (verses 1, 3, 5)

New Century (black) Hymnal 382

***BENEDICTION**

***CHORAL RESPONSE**

POSTLUDE

Fantasy on *Azmon*

Jayson Engquist, organist
Emma Lou Diemer (b. 1927)

** Please join us for Coffee Hour following the worship service and also at our special Second Hour starting at 11:30 in the Lounge.*



Music Notes:

Robert Ray is on the faculty of University of Missouri-St. Louis where he conducts the University Chorus and is Coordinator of Keyboard Studies. *He Never Failed Me Yet* is an old-time gospel hymn, and wraps all the elements of traditional gospel singing: rollicking piano accompaniment, great choral parts and a special gospel soloist to bring our month-long tribute to Black History Month to a close.

William Dawson brings our final selection of the month, *Ev'ry Time I Feel the Spirit*. Taken from the familiar hymn tune, Dawson intersperses solo story segments "Upon the mountain my Lord spoke, out of his mouth came fire and smoke," "Jordan river is chilly 'n cold, it chills the body but not the soul..." while the choir concludes with "ev'ry time I feel the spirit movin' in my heart, I will pray!"

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.

Bios of Drs. Maureen and William Matthews:

Maureen Matthews, RN, PhD, is a psychiatric nurse psychotherapist with more than thirty years experience working with the elderly (and many others), specializing in the care of persons diagnosed with dementia due to Alzheimer's disease and other causes. She is on the staff of the Stamford Counseling Center located in the First Congregational Church of Stamford, and is creator of its Memory Support Program. Independently she has created an interactive theater project, titled "*To Whom I May Concern,*"® in which early stage memory loss people tell stories of their experience of the illness and how they are treated by others, followed by interactive discussion between the performers and audience. This very moving drama in its various forms has been performed more than a dozen times in the tri-state area since 2006.

The Rev. Dr. Bill Matthews is retired Executive Director of the Stamford Counseling Center. He continues there as a pastoral counselor and as Associate Director of To Whom I May Concern, Inc., the Corporation Maureen and Bill have created for development of the drama. He also assists Maureen in the Memory Support Program at the Center. Having practiced law before he became a pastor, he has too many degrees to mention. Among other things, he sings in the choir at First Congregational Church of Stamford and in the Greenwich Choral Society, which rehearses in our Church.

Maureen and Bill have four daughters (two his, two theirs). All are grown and are serving in health care careers.

Calendar

TODAY

Church School

Most of our children will be learning more about the Mark passage that was read in worship today. The 3rd Graders will learn about Jesus' baptism. Last week we talked about ways the Church School can support this year's Lenten Offering. Watch for the details in the next Church School Family Newsletter going out to all families this week.

Choir Rehearsals

Choirs rehearsals today are: Cherub Choir from 11:15 am to 12:00 pm in Room 104; Children's Choir from 11:15 am to 12:00 pm in

Room 303 (Craig's office); and Youth Choir from 11:15 am to 12:15 pm in the Choir Room.

Second Hour: *Memory Friendly Congregations*

Join us today from 11:30 am to 1:00 pm in the Lounge as Drs. Maureen and William Matthews discuss how faith communities can be places of comfort and inclusion for those affected by memory loss as well as for their loved ones. Faith communities such as ours offer a deep sense of belonging. Our congregation can be a place where people with serious memory loss and their care partners can feel accepted and supported. Please join us for a discussion on this important topic.

Parish Nurse

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

Sunday Afternoons Live: *February 24, 4:00 pm*

Today is the last concert in our *Sunday Afternoons Live* series for this year. We will wrap up with a very special performance by *Alicia Briceland*. Alicia is an accomplished dramatic soprano in the Tri-state area and has performed in opera and concert in the United States and Germany. Her recital will include two song cycles: *The Four Last Songs* by Richard Strauss and *Cantata* by John Carter. The first deals with the process of dying and were the last songs written by Strauss before his own death in 1949. *Cantata* is a setting of four spirituals in a 20th century style. Written in 1967, they are a testament to the genius of the innovative composer and performer, John Carter. Richard Gillyard, spinto tenor, will join Ms. Briceland in a scene from Verdi's opera *Un ballo in maschera*, the aria, "Ma dall'arido stello divulsa," and the subsequent duet, "Teco io sto." The wonderful pianist, coach, and conductor, Craig Ketter, will accompany the recital. Held in the acoustical splendor of the First Congregational Auditorium, admission to this program is \$20 per person (\$5 for students; children are free). Coffee, tea, and sweet treats will be served.





Our 5 pm *linc* service is **suspended for the month of February** so that all may attend our very special *Sunday Afternoons Live* series throughout the month. *Linc* will return *next Sunday, March 3*.

THIS WEEK

A Special Performance

Our own Craig Symons will be presenting a 30 minute organ recital as part of the Lenten Recital Series at First Congregational in Fairfield this *Wednesday Feb 27* from 12:15-12:45 pm. Craig will perform works by Marcel Dupré, Jehan Alain, and Albert Alain. The performance is free, with a free-will offering received.

Soups On!

Thursday, February 28 at Noon

Please join the Wellness Committee on Thursday, February 28 at Noon in the Auditorium for a lunch of homemade soup and a nutritional talk by Gavin Prichard, Registered Dietitian with Greenwich Hospital Center for Healthy Living. Chef Gavin will discuss how to make healthy delicious soups and provide some recipes to take home. Please RSVP by calling 203-863-4277 to reserve your spot.

NEWS AND NOTICES

News from The Rummage Room

191 Sound Beach Avenue, Old Greenwich

Monday, February 25: Three day store-wide 50% Off Clearance Sale of everything in the shop through Wednesday, February 27.

Thursday, February 28: First day of Bag Sale. Each filled bag sells for \$12 per bag. Bags are provided by The Rummage Room.

Friday, March 1: Second day of Bag Sale. Each filled bag sells for \$8 per bag.

Saturday, March 2: Third and final day of Bag Sale. Each filled bag will go for \$1 per bag. Everything in the shop must go by 1:00 pm. Beginning at 1:00 pm, the shop will be cleaned and restocked with Spring items for reopening on Monday.

Monday, March 4: The Rummage Room reopens at 1:00 pm with all 'new' Spring clothing and accessories. The shop will be restocked daily.

Wish List for March: Manager Maria is making a special request for good bric-a-brac. Please think of donating some of the treasures you no longer use. Spring clothing, jewelry, shoes, and handbags are also essential wishes from the manager. And in the springtime there are daily requests for strollers, bikes, and small furniture. The Rummage Room would appreciate your donations of anything on this list.

Thank you.

Shopping Hours: Monday only on March 4, 1:00 pm to 5:00 pm.

Tuesday through Friday, 10:00 am to 5:00 pm and on Saturday, 10:00 am to 1:00 pm.

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

Know that the sun is there even when it's not shining. Believe in love even when you are alone. Trust in God even when He is silent.

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.

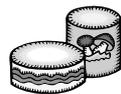
Classes are held on **Wednesdays** at 8:00 am and **Thursdays** at 9:00 am. Only \$7 per class if paid by the month, and \$8 per class for "drop ins." Join us! You'll love it! **All are welcome. Good for all levels.** NOTE: The



Wednesday morning class needs more attendees or it will no longer be available. Please pass this information along to anyone you think might be interested. Here is a quote from a very happy participant: *Luis is an outstanding instructor. I always leave feeling refreshed, invigorated in a gentle way, and my body is grateful. Every joint is gently moved and soothed. It is so wonderful.* Come to Tai Chi and see the benefits for yourself!

Food Collection

There continues to be great need for food at Neighbor to Neighbor. Please remember to contribute food each week. The Food Collection Barrel remains in the back of the Meetinghouse. Adding a few items to your weekly



grocery store visit will continue to make a significant difference at Neighbor to Neighbor. Items in need include:

- Cereal
- pasta sauce
- dried beans
- canned tomatoes
- smaller size peanut butter
- jelly
- 100% juice.

If you've forgotten your food items this morning, feel free to email fccoghungermission@gmail.com with your contact information and someone will pick up the food from your home.

Next Week at First Congregational Church

**10:00 am Worship Service – Meetinghouse
Youth Sunday with music by The Youth Choir
Rev. Mark Montgomery, preaching**



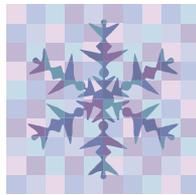
**linc Worship Service 5:00 pm in the Auditorium.
Our *linc* worship is casual, so just come as you are!**

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

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

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

And visit our [Forum](#) and start a conversation.



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