

*Old Greenwich,
Connecticut*

THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL
CHURCH OF GREENWICH

*United Church
of Christ*

Founded in 1665

The Second Sunday after Epiphany

18 January 2015

10 o'clock in the morning

*"Love is the motive, but justice is the instrument."
~ Reinhold Niebuhr*



*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. May the welcome we extend to you, and the joy we trust you will find here in Word and Music, be of inspiration, comfort and challenge for you as we face the living of these days. May God's presence in our Worship and in our lives become more real and vital because of this time we spend together.

PREPARING FOR WORSHIP

Please silence all cell phones and other electronic devices.

*All who are able please stand.

PRELUDE

Largo

Joseph Dermody, viola
Dr. Craig Scott Symons, piano
F.M. Veracini (1685-1750)

CALL TO COMMUNITY

Please sign and pass the red book.

Rev. Mark D. Montgomery

CALL TO THE 344th ANNUAL MEETING

Kathy McLennan

PRAISING GOD

CALL TO WORSHIP

*** HYMN**

O for a World New Century (black) Hymnal 575

OPENING PRAYER

O Thou whose eye is over all the children of the earth, and who has called them by your Prince of Peace into a kingdom not of this world: send forth his spirit speedily into the dark places of our guilt and woe, and arm it with the piercing power of your grace. May it reach the heart of every oppression, and make arrogance dumb before you. Let it still the noise of our strife and the tumult of the people; put to shame the false idols of every mind; carry faith to the doubting, hope to the fearful, strength to the weak, light to the mourner; and more and more increase the

pure in heart who see their God. Commit your word, O Lord, to the lips of faithful men and women, or the free winds of your invisible Providence; that soon the knowledge of you may cover the earth as waters cover the channels of the deep. And so let your kingdom come, and your will be done on earth, as it is in heaven. Let us now pray the prayer Jesus taught us,

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.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Rev. Richard S. DenUyl, Jr.

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

Go, My Children (to the tune All Through the Night)

Go, my children, with my blessing, never alone.

Waking, sleeping, I am with you; you are my own.

In my love's baptismal river

I have made you mine forever.

Go, my children, with my blessing – you are my own.

(As we begin singing Go, My Children, the children will go to the Daniels Center for a "Service Sunday" program. Parents should meet their children in the Daniels Center – which is on the lower level of the building; please ask for directions if needed – after worship.)

HEARING GOD'S WORD

FIRST LESSON

Pat Mendelsohn

1 Samuel 3:1-10, 19, 20

The boy Samuel was serving God under Eli's direction. This was at a time when the revelation of God was rarely heard or seen. One night Eli was sound asleep (his eyesight was very bad—he could

hardly see). It was well before dawn; the sanctuary lamp was still burning. Samuel was still in bed in the Temple of God, where the Chest of God rested.

Then God called out, “Samuel, Samuel!” Samuel answered, “Yes? I’m here.” Then he ran to Eli saying, “I heard you call. Here I am.” Eli said, “I didn’t call you. Go back to bed.” And so he did.

God called again, “Samuel, Samuel!” Samuel got up and went to Eli, “I heard you call. Here I am.” Again Eli said, “Son, I didn’t call you. Go back to bed.” (This all happened before Samuel knew God for himself. It was before the revelation of God had been given to him personally.)

God called again, “Samuel!”—the third time! Yet again Samuel got up and went to Eli, “Yes? I heard you call me. Here I am.” That’s when it dawned on Eli that God was calling the boy. So Eli directed Samuel, “Go back and lie down. If the voice calls again, say, ‘Speak, God. I’m your servant, ready to listen.’” Samuel returned to his bed.

Then God came and stood before him exactly as before, calling out, “Samuel! Samuel!” Samuel answered, “Speak. I’m your servant, ready to listen.”

Samuel grew up. God was with him, and Samuel’s prophetic record was flawless. Everyone in Israel, from Dan in the north to Beersheba in the south, recognized that Samuel was the real thing—a true prophet of God.

From *The Message*

ANTHEM

Before the Heavens Were Spread Abroad

The Chancel Choir

Horatio Parker

Drew Seigla, tenor

*Before the heavens were spread abroad,
From everlasting was the Word;
With God He was, the Word was God,
And must divinely be adored.*

*The morning stars sang together
and all the sons of God shouted for joy.
And we beheld His glory,
as of the only begotten of the Father full of grace and truth.
The morning stars sang together,
and all the sons of God shouted for joy.*

*This is He whom seers in old time
Chanted of with one accord;
Whom the voices of the Prophets
Promis'd in their faithful word,
Lo, He comes the long expected,
Let creation praise its Lord,
Evermore and evermore.*

*Christ, to Thee, with God the Father,
And, O Holy Ghost to Thee,
Hymn, and chant, and high thanksgiving,
And unwearied praises be,
Honour, glory, and dominion,
And eternal victory,
Evermore and evermore.
Amen.*

SECOND LESSON

Betsy Kreuter

John 1:43-46

The next day Jesus decided to go to Galilee. When he got there, he ran across Philip and said, "Come, follow me." (Philip's hometown was Bethsaida, the same as Andrew and Peter.) Philip went and found Nathanael and told him, "We've found the One Moses wrote of in the Law, the One preached by the prophets. It's *Jesus*, Joseph's son, the one from Nazareth!" Nathanael said, "Nazareth? You've got to be kidding." But Philip said, "Come, see for yourself."

From The Message

* HYMN

Precious Lord, Take My Hand New Century (black) Hymnal 472

SERMON

You Call Me?

Rev. Avery C. Manchester

RESPONDING TO GOD

PASTORAL PRAYER

CALL TO OFFERING

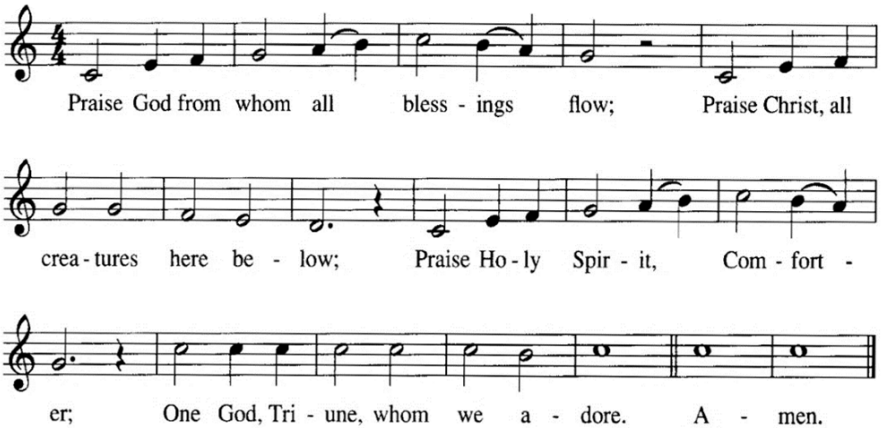
OFFERTORY

After a Dream

Joseph Dermody, viola

Gabriel Fauré (1845-1924)

*DOXOLOGY



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

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

GOING FORTH TO SERVE GOD

* HYMN

Lift Every Voice Sing

New Century (black) Hymnal 593

*BENEDICTION

*CHORAL RESPONSE

POSTLUDE
Rigaudon

Andre Campra

Please join us for Fellowship Hour in the Auditorium 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. On Church School Sundays we also have a class for 3 and 4 year olds during the entire 10:00 am service. Please see an usher if you need directions to child care or Church School.

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.

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If you would like to obtain a copy of the 2014 Annual Report prior to the Annual Meeting, you may pick up a copy in the Church Office starting Thursday, January 21.

Calendar

TODAY

Church School

Today is a "Service Sunday" when we identify a need in the community and take action to address it. We will be introducing our children to the upcoming youth mission trip to Nicaragua and will do valentines to send to the children there. We will also learn about the ministry of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. The Rotation program resumes next Sunday.

Parish Nurse

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

Choir Rehearsals

There is no Cherub, Children's or Youth Choir rehearsal today.

"Souper Bowl Sunday" Annual Soup Sale

Get your soup recipes ready to donate to the 5th Annual Women's Fellowship Soup being held on *Sunday, February 1*. Please sign up **today** to donate soup during Fellowship Hour or anytime in the Church Office (instructions and containers are there as well). Quarts of soup, chili or stew will be sold for \$10 each on February 1 from 11:00 am–1:00 pm (or as long as supplies last!) in the Auditorium. All proceeds will go to support Women's Fellowship projects. (Note: Ingredients to make the soups are tax deductible.) For more information call Sue McCalley at 203-273-6526 or email smccalley@bhhsne.com.



Pledge Envelopes

Pledge envelopes for the year 2015 will still be available **today** during Fellowship Hour or any day in the Church Office. If you have any questions, please contact Steve Summerton at steves@fccog.org or ext. 38 during the week.

Bible Study

Our New Bible Study class with Rev. Avery Manchester continues **today**, after which there will be a brief hiatus before it starts up again in a few weeks. Don't miss this last class of this session. Join the fun at 11:20 am in the Lounge. Previous attendance is not necessary. Just come with your interest in the Bible and Avery will do the rest!

THIS WEEK

Sign Up for Silver Lake Summer Programs NOW!

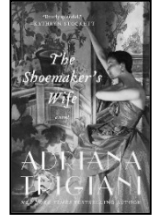
Registration for Silver Lake Summer Programs has begun online. If you know which session you want, register TODAY! If you have never been to a Silver Lake Summer session, this is the year to start. Once you go, you always go back! In order to attend, you must be going into the 4th grade in September 2015 or older. See



Rosemary, Mark or Donald for more info or visit
http://www.silverlakect.org/pdfs/SLCC_calendar_summer2015.pdf.

Hats Off Book Discussion Group

Join our *Hats Off* book study group for our first book of 2015, *The Shoemaker's Wife* by Adriana Trigiani. This book takes us on new adventures to the Italian Alps, the cobblestone streets of Little Italy, the mansions of NYC and the lakes of northern Minnesota. Hats Off meets **Thursdays at 10:00-11:30 am** in the Lounge. Please call Debbie Berner at 203-629-1110 with any questions.



Nights Off Women's Group

The first gathering of the *Nights Off* Women's Group in 2015 will be tomorrow, **Monday, January 19** (Martin Luther King Day) at the home of Ginny Breismeister (NOTE: THIS IS A CHANGE OF VENUE). We will meet at 6:30 pm and will be making soup for the annual Women's Fellowship "Souper Bowl" Sunday Soup Sale being held on February 1. All are welcome! Lots of hands will make this a fast and fun project, so please join us and bring a friend. We promise a lot of laughs and fun conversation! Also, please bring an appetizer to share and whatever you would like to drink. If you have questions or would like to be added to the email list, please contact Shirley Flierl at fbtworld@aol.com. See you there!

You're Invited to Tea with an Author!

Join us this **Thursday, January 22** at 3:30 pm in the Auditorium and enjoy tea and goodies with Barbara Stretton, author of the *Tori*



Trotter Mysteries, much beloved stories of a feline detective (www.ToriTrotter.com). And bring your kids along as these books are great for 8-12 year olds (as well as cat lovers of *all* ages!). Barbara was featured in an article in the *Greenwich Citizen* in January 2012 as the author of "cat-o-nine tales." Barbara will be speaking about her books and they will be available and autographed after her presentation. No reservations or RSVPs required.

For Moms of Very Young Children

Are you a mom of a baby, toddler and/or 2 year old? Do you know

that we have a great opportunity for you to meet and relax with other moms and their young children? Our Moms Group meets the 2nd and 4th Friday of every month (the next meeting is this *Friday, January 23*) from 9:30-10:30 am in Room 104. For more info contact Kristen Jacks at kmj33z@yahoo.com or 203-344-1961.

NEXT WEEK

Call to the 344th Annual Meeting

The 344th Annual Meeting of The First Congregational Church of Greenwich, Old Greenwich, CT, is hereby called for *Sunday, January 25, 2015*, immediately following the worship service. The meeting will be held in the Meetinghouse:

- *To hear and act upon the annual reports of the pastors, officers and committees;*
- *To hear and act upon the report of the Nominating Committee and to elect officers for the coming year;*
- *To adopt the budget for 2015;*
- *To transact such other business as may properly come before the meeting.*

Note: There will be Child Care and snacks for the children available during the meeting.

You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown!

Don't miss this wonderful performance of *You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown*, being performed by the FCCOG Youth Group Players on *Friday, January 30* and *Saturday, January 31* at 7:30 pm in the First Church Auditorium. Tickets are \$15 and all proceeds benefit the Youth Group's mission trip to Nicaragua this February.



NEWS AND NOTICES

The Return of *Sunday Afternoons Live* in February

The winter season of our *First Music and Arts Series* kicks off with the ever-popular *Sunday Afternoons Live* held at 4:00 pm each **Sunday afternoon** in February in the acoustical splendor of our Auditorium.

Admission is \$20 per person and light refreshments will be served. Tickets are available at the door and all school-aged youth are free. This year's lineup is a real treat!

- **February 1:** *Rededication of the Victor Borge Steinway* with pianist, Andrew Armstrong.
- **February 8:** *The Chamber Players of the Greenwich Symphony Orchestra* with violinist Krystof Witek, violist David Cresswell, cellist Daniel Miller, and pianist Andrew Gordon.
- **February 15:** *Songs of the Heart* with harpist, Wendy Kerner, vocalists Steve Magnuson and Marjorie Donalds, and pianist Joe Mennonna.
- **February 22:** *Asylum Quartet* with four classically-trained saxophonists, Joseph Abad, Tony Speranza, Max Schwimmer, and Andrew Barnhart.

For more information about any of these programs, visit the church website: www.fccog.org.

Red Cross Blood Drive

The FCCOG Wellness and Women's Fellowship Committees are co-hosting a Red Cross Blood Drive on *Saturday February 7*, from 8:00 am to 1:00 pm. This community event is made



complete with deviled eggs and live piano music. To schedule an appointment to give blood, please call 1-800-GIVE LIFE. Also, please contact Sue Asselin, Parish Nurse (ext. 21) if you'd like to volunteer to play piano for a one-hour shift or bring a refreshment. Thank you for reaching out and being God's hands by helping others.

SAVE THESE DATES:

Wednesday, February 18: Ash Wednesday Meditation Service, 7:00 pm in the Meetinghouse. Imposition of ashes and optional meditation. Meetinghouse will remain open for all until 10:00 pm.

Saturday, February 21: Stewardship Pledge 'Thank You' Party with music, wine and hor d'oeuvres, 5:00 pm in the Auditorium.

News from The Rummage Room

191 Sound Beach Avenue, Old Greenwich

Monday, January 19: In celebration of Martin Luther King Day, all merchandise will be 50% off FOR THE DAY.

Tuesday, January 20: Manager Maria's selection of goods will be 50% off for the remainder of the week. We continue to have a good assortment of winter clothing for adults and children; plus ski clothing for downhill and cross-country skiing.

Wish List: Everything for Valentine's Day; spring clothing; good handbags. **NOTE:** Ski boots and skis not accepted as donations.

Shop Hours: 10:00 am to 5:00 pm Monday - Friday & 10:00 am to 1:00 Saturdays.

Donation Hours: 9:30 am to 4:30 pm Monday - Thursday & 9:30 am to 1:30 pm on Saturday.

Mission Objective: The Women's Fellowship Allocations Committee is in the process of deciding which organizations will be the recipients of the funds raised by The Rummage Room in 2013 - 2014 for Women's and Children's causes. In the past 50 years, the Women's Fellowship has given away approximately 5 million dollars to these causes.

Martin Luther King, Jr.'s message when he spoke the night before he was assassinated: *We've got some difficult times ahead, but it doesn't matter to me now. Because I've been to the mountain top ... and I've looked over and I've seen the Promised Land. I may not get there with you, but I want you to know that tonight we, as a people, will get to the Promised Land.*

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 welcome.

Neighbor to Neighbor – Food Collection

Now that the holidays are over, please don't forget those in need and continue to donate food items to Neighbor to

Neighbor. Items especially needed at this time include:

Cereal, canned fruit, pasta, peanut butter (regular sized jars please) and jelly. Also, sheets and towels are always needed.



Next Week at First Congregational Church

10:00 am Worship Service – Meetinghouse
January 25, 2015

Music by:

The Youth Choir:

God is Spirit by Gary Matheny

The Chancel Choir:

The Heavens Are Telling by F. J. Haydn

Rev. Richard DenUyl, preaching

Where to find us:

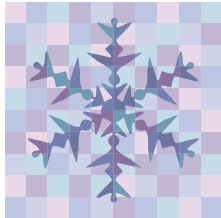
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The First Congregational Church of Greenwich

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 Youth Ministry: Rev. Mark D. Montgomery

Associate Pastor for Pastoral Care: Rev. Avery C. Manchester

Director of Music: Dr. Craig Scott Symons

Director of Family Ministries: 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