

*Old Greenwich,
Connecticut*

**THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL
CHURCH OF GREENWICH**

*United Church
of Christ*

Founded in 1665

Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

13 July 2014

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. We pray that this time of worship may bring you a greater sense of peace and a deeper awareness of the presence of God in your life.

PREPARING FOR WORSHIP

Please silence all cell phones and other electronic devices.

**All who are able please stand.*

PRELUDE

I Call to You, Lord Jesus

Eugene Sirotkine, guest organist

J.S. Bach (1685-1750)

CALL TO COMMUNITY

Please sign and pass the red book.

Rev. John W. Collins

PRAISING GOD

CALL TO WORSHIP

Olivia Gurciullo

Creator God, you call us to love and serve you with body, mind, and spirit through loving your creation and our sisters and brothers. Open our hearts in compassion that we may receive the blessings you would share with us on behalf of the needs of the church and the world.

***HYMN**

Sing Praise to God (Lobe den Herren)

New Century (black) Hymnal 22

OPENING PRAYER

Rev. Mark D. Montgomery

Through dreams and visions, O God, you broaden the horizon and hope of your people, that they may discover the meaning of your covenant, even in the midst of trial and exile. Increase the number of those who believe in your word so that all people may joyfully respond to your call and share in your promises.

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.

HEARING GOD'S WORD

FIRST LESSON

Barbara Norrgard

Genesis 25:19-26

These are the descendants of Isaac, Abraham's son: Abraham was the father of Isaac, and Isaac was forty years old when he married Rebekah, daughter of Bethuel the Aramean of Paddan-aram, sister of Laban the Aramean. Isaac prayed to the Lord for his wife, because she was barren; and the Lord granted his prayer, and his wife Rebekah conceived. The children struggled together within her; and she said, "If it is to be this way, why do I live?" So she went to inquire of the Lord. And the Lord said to her, "Two nations are in your womb, and two peoples born of you shall be divided; the one shall be stronger than the other, the elder shall serve the younger." When her time to give birth was at hand, there were twins in her womb. The first came out red, all his body like a hairy mantle; so they named him Esau. Afterward his brother came out, with his hand gripping Esau's heel; so he was named Jacob. Isaac was sixty years old when she bore them.

From New Revised Standard Version

ANTHEM

Loving Shepherd of Thy Sheep

The Summer Choir
Arr. by Philip Ledger

SECOND LESSON

Genesis 25:27-34

When the boys grew up, Esau was a skillful hunter, a man of the field, while Jacob was a quiet man, living in tents. Isaac loved Esau, because he was fond of game; but Rebekah loved Jacob.

Once when Jacob was cooking a stew, Esau came in from the field, and he was famished. Esau said to Jacob, "Let me eat some of that red stuff, for I am famished!" (Therefore he was called Edom.) Jacob said, "First sell me your birthright." Esau said, "I am about to die; of what use is a birthright to me?" Jacob said, "Swear to me first." So he swore to him, and sold his birthright to Jacob. Then Jacob gave Esau bread and lentil stew, and he ate and drank, and rose and went his way. Thus Esau despised his birthright.

From New Revised Standard Version

*HYMN

O Day of God, Draw Near New Century (black) Hymnal 611

SERMON

Keeping the 'Fun' in Dysfunctional Rev. Mark D. Montgomery

RESPONDING TO GOD

PASTORAL PRAYER

CALL TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY SOLO

Give Me Jesus

Hanna Golodinskii, soprano

Arr. by Moses Hogan

*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

Guide Me O Thou Great Redeemer

Pilgrim (red) Hymnal 18

*BENEDICTION

*CHORAL RESPONSE

POSTLUDE

Dulcissimum Convivium

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (1756-1791)

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

This morning we welcome Eugene Sirotkine as our guest director/organist. Eugene is the conductor of *Hudson Valley Singers* in Westchester and *New York Metamorphoses Orchestra* in New York City. He frequently performs on piano, organ and harpsichord. Presently, Eugene is also the Interim Music Director at the Round Hill Community Church in Greenwich.

The flowers in the Meetinghouse this morning are in loving memory of Jean Jankovich by her family.

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 held at the 8:00 am Beach Service during June and July. At 10:00 am worship we have Child Care for infants through 4 years old. If you have questions or concerns about your child in worship, please confer with the adult in charge in the Undercroft. Ushers are able to direct you.

Parish Nurse

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

THIS WEEK

Give to H.O.M.E. this Saturday!

The H.O.M.E. (Homeworkers Organized for More Employment in Maine) truck will be here Saturday morning, *July 19*. If you have donations for H.O.M.E., now is a great time to collect them, including hand tools, quilting fabric, fire wood, office supplies, building materials, big pots and pans, etc.

NEXT WEEK

Beach Services During the Summer

Beach Services are held each Sunday throughout the summer at 8:00 am at Greenwich Point, weather permitting (except for **August 3** due to the Greenwich Triathlon). Communion is served every Sunday. Come and join us for this casual service. Summer Church School also takes place at this time down at the beach throughout June and July, so bring the whole family!

Summer Choir is in Full Swing!

Please join us on **Sunday mornings** 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.

NEWS AND NOTICES

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

Monday, July 14: At Manager Maria's discretion, several categories of clothing, etc. will be 50% off for the week.

Summer Hours for Shopping: Monday -Thursday 10 am to 5 pm, Fridays 10 am to 3 pm, Saturdays 10 am to 1 pm

Summer Hours for Donations: Monday -Thursday 9:30 am to 4:30 pm, Fridays 9:30 am to 2:30 pm, Saturdays 9:30 am to 12:30 pm.

July 19: Last day for donations until Tuesday, August 26.

Wish List for July 14-19: Cashmere sweaters; fall and winter clothing; the need for good handbags is great!

Manager Maria's Famous Bag Sales begin Thursday, July 31:

Thursday, July 31 - \$12 per bag; Friday, August 1 - \$8 per bag; Saturday, August 2 - \$1 per bag. Mark your calendar for these amazing sales!

August 2: Last day The Rummage Room is open – closes at 1:00 pm for cleaning and repairs. **Don't miss the Grand Reopening on Monday, August 25 at 10:00 am!**

As Sir Alec Guinness (1914-2000) said, *Failure has a thousand explanations. Success doesn't need one!* The success of The Rummage Room over the past 50 years has been phenomenal in the fact that more than 4 million dollars has been donated to organizations that have helped ease the suffering of women and children throughout the world. This accomplishment will be celebrated this coming October. You will soon be receiving information from Chairman, Nancy McConnell, and The Rummage Room Committee for the celebration.

All New Tai Chi Classes!

Come and experience the many wonderful benefits of Tai Chi and Qi Gong exercises with our new teacher, Joe Black. Classes are held on **Wednesdays** at 8:00 am and **Thursdays** at 9:00 am. Only \$10 per class. Join us! You can even just drop in. **All are welcome.**

Next Week at First Congregational Church

8:00 am Worship Service at the Beach (Tod's Point)

10:00 am Worship Service – Meetinghouse

Founders Day

Music by:

The Summer Choir

Simple Gifts, arr. by Robert Lehman

Peter Russell

Concerto in Eb by Franz Krommer

Linnea Conley

The Face of Beauty by Donald E. Dillard

Rev. John Collins, 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

Interim Senior Pastor: Rev. John W. Collins

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