

*Old Greenwich,
Connecticut*

THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL
CHURCH OF GREENWICH

*United Church
of Christ*

Founded in 1665

The Eighth Sunday after Pentecost 22 July 2012

10 o'clock in the morning



The Wedding at Cana (detail) by Duccio, di Buoninsegna (1255-1319)

WE welcome you to worship on this summer morning. In this hour of prayer and inspiration we invite you to set aside the burdens of life and open your heart to God's graceful Spirit.

PREPARING FOR WORSHIP

Please silence all cell phones and other electronic devices.

*All who are able please stand

‡Seating of latecomers

PRELUDE
Berceuse

Vance BriceLand, Craig Symons, piano four-hands
Gabriel Fauré

CALL TO COMMUNITY
Please sign and pass the red book.

Rev. Mark D. Montgomery

PRAISING GOD

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: With gratitude born of love we give thanks to you O God.

*People: We are thankful for the beauty and bounty of nature,
for the warmth of summer and the varied joys
which every season brings.*

*Leader: We are grateful for the joys and comforts of life, for homes
and family, for our friends and for the love and goodwill
of persons near and far.*

*People: We are thankful for all true knowledge of you and the
world in which we live.*

Leader: May our worship today be a prayer of thanksgiving,

People: And may our lives be generous in response.

***‡HYMN**

My Hope is Built on Nothing Less

New Century (black) Hymnal 403

(Please remain standing for the Opening Prayer through the Gloria)

***OPENING PRAYER** (*In unison*)

Loving God, in the midst of distracted lives we seek your peace. We have rushed through our days neglecting the tender embrace of your presence. We have looked in all the wrong places for fulfillment while your gentle Spirit beckons us toward service and peace. In this hour of worship, let your wisdom seep deeply into our souls, giving us fresh energy for love and for life. We ask these things in the name of Christ, who taught us to 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

Jean Watkins

Psalm 19: 1-10

The heavens are telling the glory of God; and the firmament proclaims his handiwork.

Day to day pours forth speech, and night to night declares knowledge.

There is no speech, nor are there words; their voice is not heard; yet their voice goes out through all the earth, and their words to the end of the world.

In the heavens he has set a tent for the sun, which comes out like a

bridegroom from his wedding canopy, and like a strong man runs its course with joy.

Its rising is from the end of the heavens, and its circuit to the end of them; and nothing is hid from its heat.

The law of the Lord is perfect, reviving the soul; the decrees of the Lord are sure, making wise the simple; the precepts of the Lord are right, rejoicing the heart; the commandment of the Lord is clear, enlightening the eyes; the fear of the Lord is pure, enduring forever; the ordinances of the Lord are true and righteous altogether.

More to be desired are they than gold, even much fine gold; sweeter also than honey, and drippings of the honeycomb.

SCRIPTURE ANTHEM
My Song in the Night

The Summer Choir
Arlen Clarke

SECOND LESSON

John 2: 1-11

On the third day there was a wedding in Cana of Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there. Jesus and his disciples had also been invited to the wedding. When the wine gave out, the mother of Jesus said to him, "They have no wine." And Jesus said to her, "Woman, what concern is that to you and to me? My hour has not yet come." His mother said to the servants, "Do whatever he tells you." Now standing there were six stone water jars for the Jewish rites of purification, each holding twenty or thirty gallons. Jesus said to them, "Fill the jars with water." And they filled them up to the brim. He said to them, "Now draw some out, and take it to the chief steward." So they took it. When the steward tasted the water that had become wine, and did not know where it came from (though the servants who had drawn the water knew), the steward called the bridegroom and said to him, "Everyone serves the good wine first, and then the inferior wine after the guests have become drunk. But you have kept the good wine until now." Jesus did this, the first of

his signs, in Cana of Galilee, and revealed his glory; and his disciples believed in him.

***‡HYMN**

O God in Whom All Life Begins

New Century (black) Hymnal 401

(As the hymn begins, the Church School children will leave for Summer Church School with Rosemary.)

SERMON

“Gifts of the Day”

Rev. John W. Collins

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

PASTORAL PRAYER

RESPONDING TO GOD

CALL TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY SOLO

The Prayer of St. Francis

Carolyn Paulus, soprano

Jan Nieland

***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**

All Beautiful the March of Days

Pilgrim (red) Hymnal 456

***BENEDICTION**

***CHORAL RESPONSE**

POSTLUDE
Allegro

Vance Briceland, Craig Symons, piano four-hands
L. V. Beethoven

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 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

Summer Church School

Summer Church School continues today. We meet in a one-room schoolhouse format with children 4/5 – 9/10; younger children are welcome in child care and older children are needed to help. You can meet your children after worship in the Preschool.

Parish Nurse



Sue Asselin, RN is available in Room 203 after the Worship Service. Stop in to have your blood pressure checked or discuss any health concerns.

THIS WEEK

Summer Sings - Wednesday, July 25

Selections from Part 2 & 3 of Handel's *Messiah*

Do you miss singing with your choir during the summer months?

Come as you are from 7:30-9:30 pm and, within two hours, we will have shared in an energized rehearsal and an 'instant performance' of



a great choral work. This month, we will be singing selections from *Messiah*, under the direction of Dr.

Neal Campbell, Director of Music at St. Luke's Episcopal in Darien. Soloists will be our own Linnea

Conley, Christopher Pfund, and bass David Winkworth, partner of our assistant organist, Jayson Engquist. Music will be provided.

Hospitality, refreshments, and fun are all included — FREE! No sign-up necessary. Just come ready to sing! All 'performances' are held in the air conditioned Meetinghouse.

NEXT WEEK

Summer Bible Study

There will be two special Summer Bible Studies on the books of 2 Peter and Jude, closely related in many ways, but often ignored. The first will be on *Sunday, July 29* at 11:20 am after worship and the second will be *August 12*. To prepare, please read the two books -- it won't take you long -- and see if you can figure out why they were written and possibly to whom. There are clues all over the place. Still, they were latecomers to the New Testament and it will be fun to try to figure out why and why they don't get much air time these days. Led by Dan England.

NEWS AND NOTICES

Email Updates

Email is a great way to stay up-to-date with the activities and events going on at FCCOG in between monthly newsletters. If you have not been receiving these emails and would like to, please be sure to give your correct email address to Barb Wilkov at barbaraw@fccog.org or 203-637-1791 x24. We have many emails which have been undeliverable for various reasons and would like to update as many as possible. Don't miss out on the latest news! Update your email today.

Summer Choir

A new option for Summer Choir is available on *August 5*. On that Sunday, anyone who would like an extra rehearsal of the anthems for



the month of August is welcome to meet in the Choir Room following church from 11:30 am -12:00 noon. Meanwhile, everyone is welcome to join the Summer Choir! Simply show up *any* Sunday at 9:00 am and you have a great opportunity to lead and share your voice to enhance the worship service. **The last anthem for July is *All Things Bright and Beautiful* by John Rutter.**

Join us at the Beach!

Note: There is **NO** beach service next *Sunday, July 29*, due to the **Greenwich Triathlon**. Please join us in the Meetinghouse for our 10:00 am service. Beach Services will resume on Sunday, August 5.

News from The Rummage Room

Monday, July 22 through Wednesday, July 25: 50% off everything in the shop for three days.

Thursday, July 26: First day of Bag Sales - \$12 for all you can put in each furnished brown bag.

Friday, July 27: \$8 per furnished brown bag.

Saturday, July 28: \$1 per furnished brown bag.

Also, The Rummage Room will **close at 1:00 pm** for cleaning and restocking during the month of August.

Monday, August 27: The Rummage Room opens at 10:00 am for the "GRAND REOPENING." The shop will be open Monday through Friday, 10:00 am to 5:00 pm. and Saturday from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm.

Tuesday, August 28: Donations will be accepted from 9:30 am until 4:30 pm through Thursday, and then 9:30 am until 12:30 pm Friday and Saturday.

Please **DO NOT LEAVE DONATIONS** while The Rummage Room is closed or before Tuesday, August 28. Donations left at these times will be carted off with the trash.

Lord, help us strive to be the kind of person who wakes up in the morning and says, "Good Morning, Lord"...not the kind who says, "Good Lord, it's morning!" Thank you.



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.**

Food Collection

A reminder that the Food Collection Barrel remains in the back of the Meetinghouse, so please contribute food each week. Adding a few items to your weekly grocery store visit will make a significant difference at Neighbor to Neighbor. Items currently in need are:

- Cereal
- Oatmeal
- Pasta Sauce
- Dried Beans
- 100% Juice
- Canned Tomatoes
- Peanut Butter (no larger than 28 oz., please)
- Jelly

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 and deliver to the Church for Neighbor to Neighbor.



Next Week at First Congregational Church

10:00 am Worship Service – Meetinghouse

Mark Swicegood, guest organist/director

The Summer Choir:

All Things Bright and Beautiful by John Rutter

Rev. Dan England, preaching

Note: There is NO beach service next *Sunday, July 29*,
due to the Greenwich Triathlon.

Please join us in the Meetinghouse for the 10:00 am service.
Beach Services will resume on Sunday, August 5.

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 Publications: 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