

*Old Greenwich,
Connecticut*

THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL
CHURCH OF GREENWICH

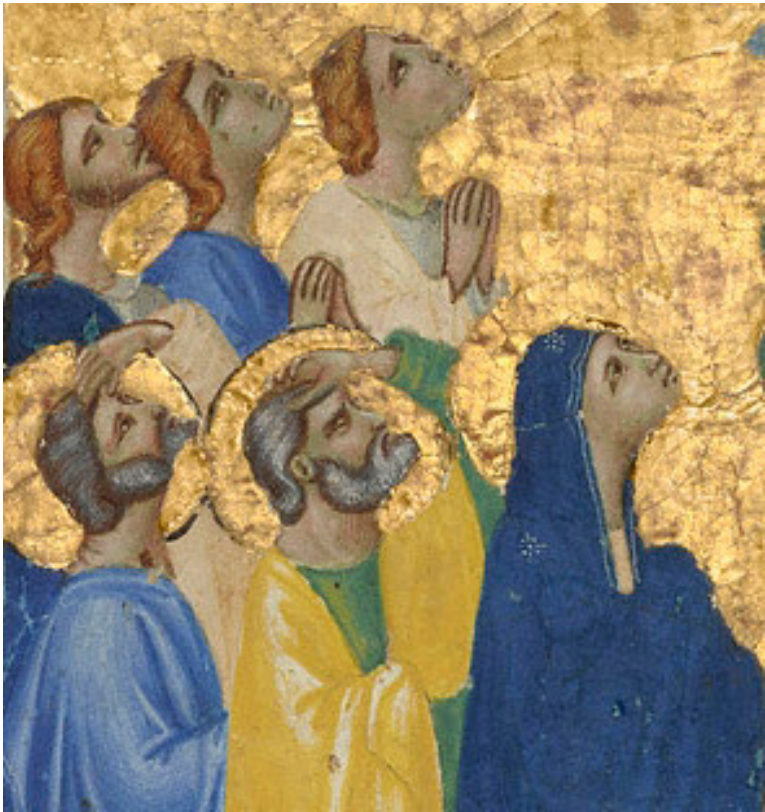
*United Church
of Christ*

Founded in 1665

Sixth Sunday of Easter

1 May 2016

10 o'clock in the morning



The Ascension of Christ from the Laudario of Sant'Agnese

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 The First Congregational Church of Greenwich on this springtime Sunday morning. Please join us after worship for our Fellowship Hour in the Auditorium.

PREPARING FOR WORSHIP

Please silence all cell phones and other electronic devices.

*All who are able please stand.

PRELUDE
Communion

Dr. Craig Scott Symons
Basil Harwood (1859-1949)

CALL TO COMMUNITY

Rev. Richard S. DenUyl, Jr.

PRAISING GOD

CALL TO WORSHIP

Eva Moore, Confirmand

*Leader: Welcome to this place:
where children and seasoned citizens sit side by side,*

*People: where heaven and earth embrace in peace,
where God has been, is, and always will be.*

*Leader: Welcome to this place, as we gather with all of God's children:
where we find God's love,*

*People: where we hear the tender voice of Jesus,
where the Spirit teaches us new songs.*

*All: Welcome to this place, where all is made ready by our God:
where we bring our hunger, and find food;
where we our brokenness, and find healing;
where we bring our very selves, and find acceptance.*

CHORAL INTROIT

***HYMN**

Alleluia! Gracious Jesus!

New Century (black) Hymnal 257

UNISON PRAYER

*We will not find that needed justice in our apathy;
we will not find that elusive wholeness with our quarreling;
we will not find our hoped for unity with our doctrines;
we will not find our misplaced love with our hating;
we will not find that rest we crave in our overflowing planners;
we will not find the peace you offer in our well nursed grudges.*

*But we will find you in the brokenness of the Bread
and in the breaking of our hearts;
we will find you when we drain the Cup,
refill it with our gifts, and offer it to a little child;
we will find you when we squeeze closer together,
making room at the Table for all your people.*

*Help us to find you, God in Community, Holy in One,
even as we pray together, saying, Our Father . . .*

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.

(As we begin singing "Go, my children, with my blessing", Church School children and teachers will leave for their classrooms.)

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

Go, my children, with my blessing

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.

HEARING GOD'S WORD

FIRST LESSON

Joe McBride

Psalm 47

Clap your hands, all you peoples;
shout to God with loud songs of joy.
For the Lord, the Most High, is awesome,
a great king over all the earth.
He subdued peoples under us,
and nations under our feet.
He chose our heritage for us,
the pride of Jacob whom he loves.
Selah

God has gone up with a shout,
the Lord with the sound of a trumpet.
Sing praises to God, sing praises;
sing praises to our King, sing praises.
For God is the king of all the earth;
sing praises with a psalm.

God is king over the nations;
God sits on his holy throne.
The princes of the peoples gather
as the people of the God of Abraham.
For the shields of the earth belong to God;
he is highly exalted.

From New Revised Standard Version

ANTHEM

Kyrie (from Mass in G)

The Chancel Choir
Franz Schubert (1797-1828)
Hanna Golodinskii, soprano

SECOND LESSON

Joe McBride

Acts 1: 1-11

In the first book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus did and taught from the beginning until the day when he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. After his suffering he presented himself alive to them by many convincing proofs, appearing to them over the course of forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God. While staying with them, he ordered them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait there for the promise of the Father. ‘This’, he said, ‘is what you have heard from me; for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now.’

So when they had come together, they asked him, ‘Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?’ He replied, ‘It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.’ When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. While he was going and they were gazing up towards heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. They said, ‘Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up towards heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.’

From New Revised Standard Version

HYMN

All Hail the Power of Jesus’ Name

Pilgrim (red) Hymnal 195

SERMON

Supercalifragilisticexpialidocious

Rev. Richard S. DenUyl, Jr.

PASTORAL PRAYER

Rev. Meghan D. Young

RESPONDING TO GOD

CALL TO OFFERING

Paul Kretschmann

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Invocation

Basil Harwood

*DOXOLOGY

Pilgrim (red) Hymnal 515

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise him, all creatures here below; Praise him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

THE SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

INVITATION

PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

RECEIVING THE BREAD AND CUP

In the tradition of our church, let us partake of the bread (note, gluten-free bread is available) as it is served, remembering our individual uniqueness in the eyes of God and our diversity within the Body of Christ. Let us hold the cup (grape juice) until all have been served, remembering our oneness with God and our unity in the Body of Christ.

UNISON PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

We give thanks, Almighty God, that you have refreshed us at your table by granting us the presence of Jesus Christ. Strengthen our faith, increase our love for one another, and send us into the world in courage and peace, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit; through Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.

GOING FORTH TO SERVE GOD

* HYMN

Crown Him with Many Crowns

Pilgrim (red) Hymnal 199

*BENEDICTION

*CHORAL RESPONSE

POSTLUDE

Maestoso

Basil Harwood

* * *

Directly following the service, one of our pastors will remain in the Chapel to be available to anyone who has a pastoral care concern.

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. We also now have two rows in the back of the chapel reserved for parents with infants or little ones who are not ready for the Nursery where the parents can be comfortable *and* still be part of worship. Please see an usher if you need help finding either of these locations.

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

This Sunday Kindergarten, 1st, 2ND, 4th and 5th graders return to our Rotation Workshops for Fruits of the Spirit for most classes. When we leave the sanctuary, these classes will gather in the Auditorium for a worship/storytelling time after which the children will be "shepherded" to their classrooms. K & 1st will be in the Preschool

Green Door Classroom. 2nd Grade will be in the Daniels Center. 4th and 5th graders will be in the Preschool Red Door Classroom Daniels Center and Kitchen. 3rd grade will be in their Room 104 and “678” will be in the Binney Conference Room.

Be sure you have **June 5** on your calendar when our children will lead worship and share their own fruits of the spirit with you!

Parish Nurse

Sue Asselin, RN, is available for blood pressure screenings and health consultations during Fellowship Hour.

NEWS AND NOTICES

UNDIE SUNDAY

May 8th 2016 at First Congregational Church of Greenwich

Nothing says you care like underwear!

Please bring NEW, unused briefs & boxers for men, women’s panties and children’s underwear for those in need to improve their lives. All sizes and ages needed. A donation bin will be provided.

All items donated will be distributed through Neighbor to Neighbor to their clients.

Underwear is the most under-donated, and most needed, item of clothing. No one should be deprived of the simple, daily necessity of clean underwear that many of us take for granted. Hygiene and physical comfort are only a part of this basic human need. New, clean underwear also provides dignity and self-esteem. The Undies Project at Neighbor to Neighbor was started to fulfill this need.

Interested in Learning About Joining the Church?

Our next New Member Class will be held **Sunday, May 15** at 11:30 am in the Senior Pastor’s office. It will last approximately an hour and a half and will include lunch. During the class, prospective new members will have the opportunity to hear about the history and faith of our denomination, the United Church of Christ, and to learn more about our church. Attending does not obligate you to join but we hope that this time together will strengthen you on the journey of faith. New members will then be received on **Sunday, May 22**. Child care will be provided at both times. Please feel welcome to join

us. If you are planning to attend, or you have questions, please contact Ginny Breismeister at ginnyb@fccog.org or 637-1791 x 26.

Women's Fellowship Annual Meeting and Luncheon

You are cordially invited to the First Congregational Church of Greenwich's Women's Fellowship Annual Meeting and Luncheon on **Wednesday, May 11, 2016 at 11:30 AM** in the Auditorium. Join us for the Election of Officers, Vote on Allocations, and a Catered Luncheon. The 46th Annual Quilt Raffle will be held at 12 Noon, with entertainment provided by Craig & Friends.

Reservations by check for \$10.00/person are a **MUST**. Please make checks payable to Women's Fellowship, and send or leave at the Church Office by Sunday, May 8. No walk-ins please.

Annual Quilt Raffle Tickets on Sale!

Tickets for the 46th Annual Quilt Raffle are now available for purchase for **\$5 each**. The drawing will take place at the *Women's Fellowship Spring Luncheon on Wednesday May 11*. You do not need to be present to win. This year, the quilt is a lovely queen-sized named *Dots & Dashes*. This pattern is a combination of the basic quilt standard nine-patch and a traditional rail-fence block. It is a great pattern for using a variety of color and fabric design and most of the fabric came from the quilter's stash. It is also set on a bias, or diagonal, providing more interest than a horizontal/vertical pattern. If you view the quilt from the side, it creates an optical illusion and looks very different than a straight-on view.

Tickets are now being sold during Fellowship Hour following Sunday worship (each Sunday now through May 10), in the Church Office and an order form is included in the April Meetinghouse Monthly. All proceeds are donated to support charitable organizations that benefit women, children and families.

Kettle Quilters

Please join us to help make the quilt we promised Reverend Mark Montgomery as a farewell present. We hope many of our quilters and sewers will give their time and talent to make this a true gift of the heart from our women and young people. Your name will be on the label of the finished quilt.

Our regular quilting hours are every Monday 9am to noon in the Binney Conference Room.

If you prefer a weeknight or Saturday mornings however we can arrange to have the room available at one of those times. You can contact us at kettlequilters@gmail.com. Please let us know if you can make it on Monday morning or if you would prefer a weeknight (specify which night) or Saturday morning.

"Hats Off" Book Discussion Group

Our "Hats Off" book discussion group has selected "The Sparrow Sisters" by Ellen Herrick for its last spring read before our summer break. We will begin discussing this novel on **May 12th**.

"The Sparrow Sisters are as tightly woven into the seaside New England town of Granite Point as the wild sweet peas that climb the stone walls along the harbor." Join us to discuss this enchanting book on Thursday mornings from 10-11:30 am in the Binney Room .

Please reserve your copy with the Greenwich Library or call Jean Bruder, 203-661-1685 to order.

Move 'n Groove Dance Exercise Class

Move 'n Groove Dance Exercise classes at First Congregational Church are on Mondays and Thursdays at 5:15PM in the Daniel's Center. This is a joyful blend of modern dance, ethnic dances, jazz movements, martial arts, and yoga. This holistic approach to movement integrates dynamic flexibility, yogic breath and core strengthening within the context of dance so that while your body receives the benefits of cardio-respiratory training, your spirit and mind are also blessed with joy and self-expression. The mix of music inform a variety of movement styles and expression. Best of all, there is no experience necessary – just bring your “fake it ‘till you make it” attitude and learn as you go! Bring a mat because the class ends with yoga stretching.

The class fee schedule is: \$16/drop-in | \$55/month 1x weekly | \$90/month 2x weekly

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

Monday, May 2: 50% sale items for the week may be found on the church website.

Mother's Day Gift Certificates available in any amount at the cash register. Shop soon ... choice items will go quickly!

Wednesday, May 11: The Women's Fellowship 46th Annual Spring Luncheon begins at 11:30 am in the church auditorium. The luncheon is open to all would like to attend.

Manager Leanne's Wish list for the week: Cashmere Sweaters; jewelry and Music CDs.

Shop Hours: 10:00 am - 5:00 pm Monday-Friday & 10:00 am - 12:30 pm on Saturday.

Donations: 9:30 am-4:30 pm Monday-Thursday & 9:30 am-12:30 pm on Saturday. *Please do not leave donations when the shop is closed.*

Thought for the Week: Thanks to all the wonderful quilters who lovingly make such beautiful quilts year after year. We are so fortunate to have you!

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
Senior Pastor: Rev. Richard S. DenUyl, Jr.
Transitional Associate Pastor: Rev. Meghan D. Young
Associate Pastor for Pastoral Care: Rev. Avery C. Manchester
Director of Music: Dr. Craig Scott Symons
Director of Family Ministries: Rosemary Lamie
Youth Coordinator: Donald Haviland
Director of Church Administration & Finance: Steve Summerton
Administrative Assistant - Operations: Donna White
Administrative Assistant - Communications: Rachael E. Schuster
Director of Membership: Ginny Breismeister
Parish Nurse: Susan Asselin, RN
Director of Preschool: Darla Kohler Steiner