

*Old Greenwich,  
Connecticut*

THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL  
CHURCH OF GREENWICH

*United Church  
of Christ*

*Celebrating 350 Years - 1665-2015*

# Confirmation Sunday

17 May 2015

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. Today we honor and welcome into membership our Confirmation Class of 2015. Will you join us in giving thanks to God for the ways each of us are blessed on the journey with special gratitude given today for the ways God is blessing our newest members? Let us worship God.

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### **PREPARING FOR WORSHIP**

Please silence all cell phones and other electronic devices.

\*All who are able please stand.

#### **PRELUDE**

*Variations on Madrid*

*Dr. Craig Scott Symons, organ*

Denis Bedard (b. 1950)

#### **CALL TO COMMUNITY**

*Please sign and pass the red book.*

*Rev. Richard S. DenUyl, Jr.*

#### **FIRST CHURCH FLASHBACK**

*Barbara Norrgard*

### **PRAISING GOD**

**CALL TO WORSHIP** *Jessie Aselin, Chris Vissichio, Drew Mohn*

*Jessie: I realize God has always been with me; not necessarily in the ways that I would have expected, but God is still there.*

*People: Let us join together to worship God, who is always there.*

*Chris: I pray to God because God is caring, loving, and healing.*

*People: Let us join together to worship God, who is our hope.*

*Drew: I believe God is present in every person and works through each of us to do good in the world.*

*People: Let us join to worship God who helps us.*

*All: Praise be to God.*

#### **CHORAL INTROIT**

#### **\*HYMN**

*Here I Am, Lord (CC\*) (words and music at back of bulletin)*

## OPENING PRAYER

*Olivia Gurciullo, Kendrick Ng-Yow, Audrey Thalheim,  
Charles Ariyibi, Miles Vandermeer*

## 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.

## SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

*Raymond Juan Barnes,*

*son of Stephanie Lee and Raymond Carl Barnes*

## BAPTISM PRAYER *(in unison)*

Gracious God, giver of life, you have called us by name, and pledge to each of us your faithful love. We pray today for your blessing on **Raymond** that you will watch over him and guide him as he grows in faith. Remind us of the promises of our own baptism, and renew our trust in you. Make us strong to obey your will and to serve you with joy, through the power of your Holy Spirit. Amen.

## BAPTISMAL RESPONSE

*Child of Blessing, Child of Promise*

New Century (black) Hymnal 325

*Child of blessing, child of promise,  
baptized with the Spirit's sign;  
With this water God has sealed you  
unto love and grace divine.*

## HEARING GOD'S WORD

## FIRST LESSON

*Christopher Ziac*

**Micah 6:8**

**H**e has told you, O mortal, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?

*From New Revised Standard Version*

**ANTHEM**

*Here Am I, Send Me*

*The Youth Choir*  
John Purifoy (b. 1952)  
Carolyn Paulus, director  
Vance Briceland, piano

*Here am I, send me.*

*Here am I, Lord, send me.*

*Unto Thee, willingly, yielded I come.*

*Show the path that I must walk, compel me then to go,*

*And if I stray, bring back the light of day,*

*For here am I, send me, I pray.*

*Here am I, send me.*

*Here am I, Lord, send me.*

*Precious Holy Spirit, come, fill me anew.*

*Give me wisdom, send me strength,*

*Grant that I may be a mirror of Your never-ending love,*

*For here am I, send me, I pray.*

*Here am I, send me.*

*Here am I, Lord, send me.*

*Take my heart, it is Your own, my will is Thine.*

*Take my voice and let me sing always unto Thee,*

*So that my days shall flow in ceaseless praise.*

*Lord, here am I, send me, I pray.*

**SECOND LESSON**

*Mark Montgomery*

**John 17:6-19**

“**I** have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. Now they know that everything you have given me is from you; for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me. I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world, but on behalf of

those whom you gave me, because they are yours. All mine are yours, and yours are mine; and I have been glorified in them.

And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one. While I was with them, I protected them in your name that you have given me. I guarded them, and not one of them was lost except the one destined to be lost, so that the scripture might be fulfilled. But now I am coming to you, and I speak these things in the world so that they may have my joy made complete in themselves. I have given them your word, and the world has hated them because they do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world. I am not asking you to take them out of the world, but I ask you to protect them from the evil one. They do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world.

Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth. As you have sent me into the world, so I have sent them into the world. And for their sakes I sanctify myself, so that they also may be sanctified in truth.

*From New Revised Standard Version*

*(As the hymn begins, the children and teachers will go to their Classrooms: Kindergarten/1st Grade go to Red Door in the Preschool; 2nd Grade go to Room 104; 3rd Grade and older go to the Daniels Center – all on the lower level of the building. Your child can just go with the “crowd” and we will be sure they find their room.)*

**\*HYMN**

*Spirit of God, Descend Upon My Heart*

Pilgrim (red) Hymnal 232

**SERMON**

*Just the Basics*

*Rev. Mark D. Montgomery*

**AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

*Owen White, Taylor Schinto, Yevgeniya Golodinskii*

**Owen:** We believe that God is with us and that God’s love is unconditional.

*Taylor:* With time, we hope to grow toward God's love, wisdom and faith, that we may better understand the bonds we share.

*Yevgeniya:* As our bond with God grows stronger we pledge to support our church and our brothers and sisters in Christ.

*Congregation Only:*

We believe, along with God's support, comes acceptance and forgiveness.

*Confirmands Only:*

As our confirmation class begins our journey as members of the church, we affirm that we are all on a journey together as one.

*All:* Amen.

#### PASTORAL PRAYER

*Dan Wurst, Holly Hanson, Peter Gurciullo, Christiana Lauridsen*

#### RESPONDING TO GOD

#### SERVICE OF CONFIRMATION

Roll Call of Confirmands

*Elaine Teeters, Senior Deacon*

Questions of Confirmands

Question of Congregation

Laying on of Hands and Presentation of Crosses

Prayer of Confirmation

Declaration of Membership

CALL TO OFFERING

*Chris Hartwell*

**OFFERTORY ANTHEM**

*Grow in Grace*

*The Chancel Choir*

Malcolm Archer (b. 1952)

*Grow in grace and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. As newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the Word, that you shall grow thereby. Grow in peace, and may the blessing of the Lord be upon you. The Lord shall with his holy oil anoint you, and you shall know his grace. I will sprinkle clean water upon you, I will give you a new heart, I will put my Spirit within you, and you shall live by my statutes. Amen.*

**\*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**

**GOING FORTH TO SERVE GOD**

**\*HYMN**

*I Was There to Hear Your Borne Cry*

New Century (black) Hymnal 351

**\*BENEDICTION**

**\*CHORAL RESPONSE**

**POSTLUDE**

*Postlude in Ab*

Charles Joseph Frost (1848-1918)

\*CC = Congregation Choice

\* \* \*

*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 Memory Garden  
(weather permitting) following the worship service.*

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## Confirmation Class 2015

Charles Akintoye Ariyibi  
Jessica Lee Aselin  
Yevgeniya Golodinskii  
Peter Charles Gurciullo  
Olivia Renee Gurciullo  
Holly Elizabeth Hanson  
Christiana Virginia Lauridsen  
Andrew Mark Mohn  
Kendrick Graham Ng-Yow  
Taylor Katherine Schinto  
Audrey Wolter Thalheim  
Miles Lex VanDermeer  
Christopher Douglas Vissicchio  
Owen John White  
Daniel Olsen Wurst  
Christopher John Ziac

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The flowers in the Meetinghouse this morning are given in celebration of the baptism of Raymond Juan Barnes by his parents.

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](http://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*

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### TODAY

#### **Church School**

Today our children will begin to prepare for their participation in worship on June 7 which is the last session of regular Church School this year. Kindergarten/1st Grade go to Red Door in the Preschool; 2nd Grade go to Room 104; 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> Grades go to the Daniels Center – all on the lower level of the building. “678” will be in worship for the confirmation. Next Sunday is Memorial Day Weekend and there will be no Church School.

#### **Choir Rehearsals**

Cherub Choir will rehearse today from 11:15 to 11:45 am in Room 104. The Children’s and Youth Choirs are finished for the season.

#### **Blood Pressure Screening**

A member of the Wellness Committee is available to perform blood pressure screenings in Room 203 following today's worship service.

#### **Brenda Stiers Memorial Lecture Series Begins**

The first in a series of lectures in The Rev. Dr. Brenda J. Stiers Memorial Speaker Series begins *tonight* at 6:00 pm with a presentation by Dr. Maryan Ainsworth, Curator of European Paintings at the Metropolitan Museum of Art (and First Church member) entitled, “Saints and Relics: Cranach’s *Saint Maurice* and Luther’s Reformation.” What does a recently-discovered painting of the Black African Saint Maurice in shining armor tell us about the origins of the Protestant Reformation? Dr. Ainsworth, who is the curator of the Metropolitan Museum’s newest exhibit, will discuss a visual exploration of the pivotal role that this important and complex work of German Renaissance art played during those turbulent years. A wine and cheese reception will follow.



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## NEXT WEEK

### Summer Choir Begins Next Week!

Please join us on Sunday mornings through the summer, starting next *Sunday, May 24*, at 9:00 am in the Meetinghouse for a warm-up and rehearsal of the music being done that Sunday. 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 (ext. 22).

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## NEWS AND NOTICES

### Come Join First Church at the Memorial Day Parade!

First Church is going on the road ... along Sound Beach Avenue, that is! We want the whole town to know about our 350<sup>th</sup> Anniversary so we're creating an amazing, historical float for the Memorial Day Parade on *Monday, May 25*. Our Music Director, Craig Symons, will be on the keyboard and singers of all ages in costumes reflecting our long history will be singing popular and familiar hymns. More Church members will walk alongside the float handing out "goodies." To be part of the fun, please get in touch with Judy Gordon at 203-637-8575 or [gordoog@aol.com](mailto:gordoog@aol.com). There's something for everyone –builders, singers, walkers, and, of course, viewers. Join us!



### Caregivers Support Group at FCCOG

We are pleased to announce the start of a Caregivers Support Group for those who currently are, or recently have been, a caregiver for a family member or friend. The group will offer a confidential place where participants can share experiences, learn new information and receive emotional support and comfort from others in similar situations. The group will meet on **the first Sunday of the month, beginning June 7, from 11:15 am–12:00 pm in Room 103.**

Dorothy Mueller, FCCOG Stephen Minister, will be the group facilitator. For more information, please call Dorothy at 203-588-9896 or email: [dorothymueller1@gmail.com](mailto:dorothymueller1@gmail.com).

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

Monday, May 18: The week's 50% sale items can be found on [www.fccog.org/about-us/the-rummage-room](http://www.fccog.org/about-us/the-rummage-room).

Monday, May 25: The Rummage Room will be closed in celebration of Memorial Day.

**Manager Maria's Wish List:** Wedding, bridesmaid, and mother-of-the-bride dresses, shoes, veils and other accessories; Tuxedos for the groom and best men; tyke trikes; children and adult bikes; strollers; summer clothing; jewelry; handbags.

**On sale this week:** bedding, pillows, dresses, men & women shirts.

**Shop Hours:** 10:00 am to 5:00 pm Monday through Friday & 10:00 am to 1:00 pm on Saturday.

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

The newly elected RR Committee for 2015-2016: Chair: Marcia Livingston, Erna Olson, Charlotte Robinson, Ginny Breismeister, Prill Myer; Janet Blasberg, Mary Jo Watson, Lynn Robertson, Sharon Paris, Joan Osgood, Nancy York, Judy Miller, Maria Drieghe, and Co-Presidents of The Women's Fellowship, Anne Pfetsch and Annette Bergh.

When The Rummage Room turned 50 last October, it could be looked back on as an amazing record of raising over \$4 million dollars and distributing it to organizations that are dedicated to improving the lives of women and children locally, regionally and nationally. How many congregations throughout the United States can point to such an outstanding singular achievement? If the seven people who were the founders of FCCOG 350 years ago and the two women who started The Rummage Room could see the results of their efforts, they would be amazed ... and the 300 years that elapsed between the founding of the church and opening of The Rummage Room illustrates that it is never too late to make a significant difference in the lives of others. And that has applied to every corner of First Church and its congregation.

### Tai Chi Classes

TRY IT OUT! Come and experience the many wonderful benefits of Tai Chi and Qi Gong exercises. Classes are held on **Wed** at 8 am and **Thurs** at 9 am. Only \$10 per class. Drop-ins are welcome.

### Neighbor to Neighbor – Food Collection

Please don't forget those in need. **Items especially needed are canned meats, such as Spam, chili, etc.** Tuna is **not** needed at this time. Also, cereal, canned fruit, pasta, peanut butter, jelly, sheets & towels.

### Night's Off

Night's Off will not meet this month, but will meet in June at the beach.

## Here I Am, Lord



1. I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my  
2. I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my  
3. I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the



peo - ple cry. All who dwell in dark and sin  
peo - ple's pain. I have wept for love of them.  
poor and lame. I will set a feast for them.



My hand will save. I who made the  
They turn a - way. I will break their  
My hand will save. Fin - est bread I

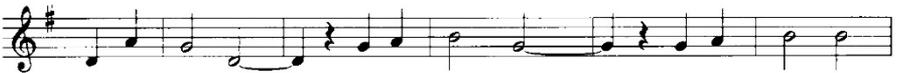


stars of night, I will make their dark-ness bright. Who will bear my  
hearts of stone, Give them hearts for love a - lone. I will speak my  
will pro - vide. Till their hearts be sat - is - fied. I will give my



light to them? Whom shall I send?  
word to them. Whom shall I send?  
life to them. Whom shall I send?

### Refrain



Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard you



call-ing in the night. I will go, Lord, if you lead me.



I will hold your peo - ple in my heart.

*Next Week at First Congregational Church*  
10:00 am Worship Service – Meetinghouse  
*May 24, 2015*

Music by:  
The Summer Choir  
*Hallelujah, Amen* by G. F. Handel

*Rev. Richard DenUyl, Jr., preaching*

Where to find us:

[www.fccog.org](http://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](http://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 Church Administration & Finance: Steve Summerton

Director of Membership: Ginny Breismeister

Director of Communications: Barbara Wilkov

Parish Nurse: Susan Asselin, RN

Director of Preschool: Darla Kohler Steiner

Pastors Emeriti: Rev. Dr. Thomas L. Stiers and Rev. Sally Colegrove

Director of Music Emeritus: Dr. John Stansell