

The First Congregational Church of Greenwich

Founded in 1665

Outreach Sunday

22 May 2016

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.



We warmly welcome you to The First Congregational Church of Greenwich on this Outreach Sunday. 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

Psalm

Dr. Craig Scott Symons, organist

Charles Wood (1866-1926)

CALL TO COMMUNITY

Rev. Richard S. DenUyl, Jr.

PRAISING GOD

CALL TO WORSHIP

Rev. Meghan D. Young

Leader: Now is the time to awaken to the presence of God the
Eternal Spirit.

People: Now is the time to come alive with our songs of praise.

Leader: Today we welcome new members into our church.

People: Today we extend our hands in caring toward all of humanity.

Leader: We do all of this in response to the ministry and message of
Christ.

All: Thanks be to God!

CHORAL INTROIT

* HYMN

Christian, Rise and Act Your Creed

New Century (black) Hymnal 537

RESPONSIVE READING

Leader: I was in downtown Stamford shopping for designer sheets
when an old man whispered,

People: I have no bed.

Leader: I stood at an appliance store comparing consumer reports
on microwave oven when an African woman wept,

People: I have no food.

Leader: I hired a decorator from Greenwich to remodel my kitchen
and to add more cupboards when a Cambodian child
sobbed,

People: I have no cup.

Leader: I dreamed of building a getaway place, a cottage near the
sea, when across the water a Syrian refugee cried:

People: I have no country.

*All: May God forgive us when our ears won't hear and our eye won't see
the sounds and sights of the hungry and homeless around us. Amen.*

RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS

Roll Call of Candidates

Ginny Breismeister

(Candidates will come forward as their names are called)

Commitment of Candidates

Clergy: We are called of God to be disciples through Christ Jesus.
Today we welcome each of you to join us in the joy of God's service
through the work of First Congregational Church of Greenwich.

Senior Deacon: Friends in Christ, we bid you welcome. We greet
you as fellow disciples of Christ. Our purpose is to promote the
increase of the love of God and neighbor. Will you now unite
yourself with The First Congregational Church of Greenwich,
accepting its responsibilities, praying and working for its usefulness,
sustaining its worship, supporting its wider mission, and living with
us in the joy of Christian fellowship?

Candidates: I will.

Clergy: We believe in the freedom and responsibility of the individual soul and the right of private judgment. We join in fellowship with other congregations of the United Church of Christ in declaring our steadfast allegiance to the faith which our forebears confessed, which from age to age has found its expression in the historic creeds of the Church Universal and of our Communion, and in affirming our loyalty to the basic principles of our representative democracy. We hereby set forth the things we most surely believe.

The Covenant (*Congregation - All who are able please stand*): We believe in God, infinite in wisdom and love, in Jesus Christ, and in the Holy Spirit, who renews, comforts and inspires us. We are united in seeking to know the will of God as taught in the Holy Scriptures and to walk in the ways of Christ. As Jesus accepted, welcomed and embraced all people without exception, so do we accept all who join with us in our journey to be a people of faith. We accept the mission of this church to proclaim the gospel, to worship God and to work for the dream of a compassionate world. Trusting in God's Spirit, we promise to support each other in love, that through our faith, the world might be made new.

Right Hand of Fellowship

SONG OF RESPONSE

Blest Be the Tie That Binds

*Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in Christian love;
The fellowship of kindred minds is like to that above.
Before our God we come and pour our ardent prayers;
Our fears, our hopes, our aims are one, our comforts and our cares.*

(As we begin singing, the Church School children and teachers will leave for their classrooms.)

HEARING GOD'S WORD

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Sue McCalley

Isaiah 58: 5- 8

Is such the fast that I choose,
a day to humble oneself?
Is it to bow down the head like a bulrush,
and to lie in sackcloth and ashes?
Will you call this a fast,
a day acceptable to the LORD?

Is not this the fast that I choose:
to loose the bonds of injustice,
to undo the thongs of the yoke,
to let the oppressed go free,
and to break every yoke?
Is it not to share your bread with the hungry,
and bring the homeless poor into your house;
when you see the naked, to cover them,
and not to hide yourself from your own kin?
Then your light shall break forth like the dawn,
and your healing shall spring up quickly;
your vindicator shall go before you,
the glory of the LORD shall be your rear guard.

From New Revised Standard Edition

From Homeless to Home

Jason T. Shaplen

HYMN

Holy Spirit, Ever Dwelling

New Century (black) Hymnal 59

PASTORAL PRAYER

Rev. Avery C. Manchester

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.

RESPONDING TO GOD

CALL TO OFFERING

Carolyn MacLea

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Christ whose glory fills the skies

The Chancel Choir

Harold Darke (1888-1976)

***DOXOLOGY**

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.

Pilgrim (red) Hymnal 515

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

GOING FORTH TO SERVE GOD

***HYMN**

Lead On Eternal Sovereign

New Century (black) Hymnal 573

***BENEDICTION**

***CHORAL RESPONSE**

POSTLUDE

Procession

Dr. Craig Scott Symons, organist

C. S. Lang (1891-1971)

* * *

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.

This morning we are pleased to welcome our guest speaker, **Jason Shaplen, Chief Executive Officer of Inspirica.**

Inspirica, is one of largest providers of services to the homeless in the state of Connecticut. Prior to Inspirica, Mr. Shaplen was a senior executive at Project Renewal in New York City. In 2006, he founded IMRINTS, a social enterprise that doubles as a for-profit digital printing business and training program for homeless individuals. Before Project Renewal, Mr. Shaplen worked as a journalist at Newsweek and Dow Jones (Far Eastern Economic Review), a speechwriter on Bill Bradley's presidential campaign, a management consultant at Booz Allen & Hamilton, and a senior executive at PCCW, a communications services firm in Hong Kong. From 1995 to 1999, he served in an appointed diplomatic capacity as policy adviser at the Korean Peninsula Energy Development Organization (KEDO), where he negotiated international agreements with North Korea and participated in more than thirty rounds of international negotiations in North Korea (seven times), South Korea, Japan, and China. He also served as KEDO's press spokesman and its liaison to the U.S. Congress. Mr. Shaplen lived in Asia for twenty years. He was a Thomas J. Watson Fellow in Malaysia and Israel and a Fulbright Scholar in the Philippines. His work has appeared in various publications, including Foreign Affairs, the New York Times, the New York Times Magazine, the Los Angeles Times, the International

Herald Tribune, the Asian Wall Street Journal, the Boston Globe, Newsweek, and on foreignaffairs.org.

Calendar

TODAY

Church School

Today our children will continue to prepare for their participation in worship on Children's Sunday, June 5. There will be readings, prayers, an orchestra and more. Children will gather in their own classrooms including Kindergarten and 1st grade in the Red Door; 2nd grade in the Green Door, and 4th & 5th grades in the Daniels Center. "678" will meet in the Binney Conference Room. At 11:15 today, the 4th & 5th graders and parent chaperones will leave to do our annual gardening at Pilgrim Towers. We will leave PT at about 1PM. Lunch is included.

There is no regular church school next Sunday, May 29th but there will be an activity for all ages.

Parish Nurse

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

NEWS AND NOTICES

Memorial Day Hospitality

For several years now we have had a refreshment stand on the lawn in front of the church where we serve water, lemonade and popsicles to visitors- especially those who just completed their long march in the parade. This "outreach" effort has been very well received and fun to do. Most of the effort has been led by staff and there has been significant help from volunteers as well. Just reaching out to see who among us would like to help this year. If so, please contact either Ginny (GinnyB@fccog.org) or Rosemary (RosemaryL@fccog.org).

Let's Put Together an Orchestra!

On Sunday, June 5, we will have an all-ages orchestra playing in church for Children's Sunday. We'll do ONE piece, Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee. If you play an instrument, please send an email to

Craig Symons (craigs@fccog.org) and let him know you're going to play. We'll have a rehearsal on Saturday morning, May 28 from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. in the Meetinghouse. It's crucial to let him know what instruments are going to be played so there are enough parts covered. Dust off that instrument and let's have some fun!

Children's Sunday & Volunteer Sunday

Be sure you have **June 5** on your calendar. Our children will lead worship and share their own Fruits of the Spirit with you! Our Outreach Committee is hosting a volunteer fair with the organizations our church supports. Find out all about the ways you can volunteer with them!

Summer Choir – All Welcome!

Please join us on Sunday mornings throughout the summer, starting at **9:00 am in the Meetinghouse** for a warm-up and rehearsal of the music being sung that morning. Come any Sunday that you are available to help lead the congregation in worship, and it's also a chance to experience worship from the choir loft. If you have any questions, please contact Craig Symons (ext. 22).

Call to Special Meeting

June 12, 2016

A Special Meeting of the members of the First Congregational Church of Greenwich, Old Greenwich, CT is hereby called for Sunday, June 12, 2016 in the Meetinghouse immediately following the 10 am worship service for the following purposes:

- To hear and act upon the report of the Nominating Committee and to elect officers and Committee members and to fill certain other positions for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2016;
- To adopt the budget for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2016;
- To hear certain reports of the pastors, officers and committees;
- To transact such other business as may properly come before the meeting.

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

Monday, May 23: The 50% off items for the week can be found on the church website.

The RR has dresses for weddings, bridesmaids, mothers-of-the-bride, prom dresses, and tuxedos for weddings and proms.

Manager Leanne's Wish list for the week: Men's business shirts, ties and other items for Father's Day.

Shop Hours: Monday through Friday 10:00-5:00 pm & Saturday 10:00 to 1:00pm.

Donations: Monday through Thursday 9:30 - 4:30 pm & Friday and Saturday 9:30- 12:30 pm.

We welcome your continued patronage in order to meet the Women's Fellowship goals in 2016-17 for organizations needing our support.

Thought for the Week: *Give what you have. To someone, it may be better than we dare to think.* Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

New Members Joining Today

Mark and Gia Burton, 39 Shore Road, Old Greenwich, CT 06870, 203 990-0021. Mark and Gia come to First Congregational Church by Reaffirmation of Faith. Mark is in finance and Gia is a stay at home mom to daughter Charlotte (6 ½ years) and son J.R. (4 years). They are a happy family of four and are excited to be joining First Church.

Stephen (Steve) and Mary Gettings, 57 Shore Road, Old Greenwich, CT 06870, 203 637-6885. Steve and Mary come to First Congregational Church by Reaffirmation of Faith. Steve is Regulatory VP at Avon Products and enjoys books and gardening. Mary is a civil engineer but at present is a stay at home mom. She enjoys books, movies and international affairs. They have two children, Stephen (5 ½) and Edensor (Ensa) (2 ½). Steve and Mary are happy to join First Church and already feel a part of the church family.

Brett and Monica Harriss, 3 Long Meadow Road, Riverside, CT 06878, 203 344-9383. Brett comes to First Congregational Church by Letter of Transfer from Christ Church and Monica comes by Reaffirmation of Faith. Brett is an asset manager and is interested in music and swimming. Monica is an architect with Amenta/Emma and is interested in photography. Brett and Monica are the parents of three year old twins, son Blake and daughter Blair, and another daughter Harper, 9 months old. They moved here from Manhattan in 2012 and are delighted to join the embracing First Church family.

Daniel (Dan) and Jodie Vitale, 150 Southfield Ave. Apt 2416, Stamford, CT 06902. Dan and Jodie come to First Congregational Church by Reaffirmation of Faith. They are the parents of nine month old Maya.

Philip (Phil) and Abby Wentworth, 8 Tomac Court, Old Greenwich, CT 06870, 203 992-9500 (Phil) and 203 946-7260 (Abby). Phil comes to First Congregational Church by Transfer of Letter from the First Presbyterian Church of Greenwich and Abby comes by Reaffirmation of Faith. Phil is VP in sales for Omnicom Systems and plays golf. Abby works in Information Security at Acorda Therapeutics and is a gardener. Phil and Abby met at work and relocated to Greenwich where they married and are now the parents of four year old Claire.



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

Director of Membership: Ginny Breismeister

Parish Nurse: Susan Asselin, RN

Director of Preschool: Darla Kohler Steiner