

*Old Greenwich,  
Connecticut*

THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL  
CHURCH OF GREENWICH

*United Church  
of Christ*

*Founded in 1665*

## Seventh Sunday of Easter

8 May 2016

10 o'clock in the morning



*2016 Dots & Dashes Quilt by the FCCOG Kettle Quilters*

*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 Mother's Day morning. Please join us after worship for our Fellowship Hour in the Auditorium.

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### PREPARING FOR WORSHIP

Please silence all cell phones and other electronic devices.

\*All who are able please stand.

#### **PRELUDE**

*Monologue and Fugue*

*Dr. Craig Scott Symons, organist*

Josef Rheinberger (1839-1901)

#### **CALL TO COMMUNITY**

Rev. Richard S. DenUyl, Jr.

### PRAISING GOD

#### **CALL TO WORSHIP**

Lauren O'Donnell, Confirmand

**Leader:** All powerful and ever present God, pour upon us your Spirit of guidance.

**People:** *Give us the hearts and minds to heed the direction you are calling us.*

**Leader:** Even if your calling is in a direction we don't completely understand.

**People:** *Still in us the many voices that lead us astray that we may hear your quiet voice.*

**Leader:** May our journey as individuals and as a church be inspired by faith and grace.

**People:** *We are your people, O God, we are your church. Guide us with your renewing Spirit. Awaken in us the wonder and adventure of your plan for our lives.*

## CHORAL INTROIT

### \*HYMN

*God of Abraham and Sarah*

New Century (black) Hymnal 20

### UNISON PRAYER

Loving God, you are Sovereign over all our days. When the winds of the Spirit blow strong and our spirits are invigorated, you are with us. When the burdens of life are as oppressive as humid hot air and we become listless, you are with us. When a sense of calm purpose moves us from the debts of our being, you are present. And when a turbulence of confusion or pain storms in on us, you are with us still. Forgive us when we neglect to acknowledge your guidance in our life. Forgive us for only half listening to your call. Grant us the wisdom to trust your plan for us that we may live to your glory and your honor. We ask this in Jesus' name, and we pray the words our Savior taught us ...

### 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.

### CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Rev. Meghan D. Young

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

### CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

*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

*Jean Watkins*

### PSALM 139 1-10

O Lord, you have searched me and known me.  
You know when I sit down and when I rise up;  
you discern my thoughts from far away.  
You search out my path and my lying down,  
and are acquainted with all my ways.  
Even before a word is on my tongue,  
O Lord, you know it completely.  
You hem me in, behind and before,  
and lay your hand upon me.  
Such knowledge is too wonderful for me;  
it is so high that I cannot attain it.  
Where can I go from your spirit?  
Or where can I flee from your presence?  
If I ascend to heaven, you are there;  
if I make my bed in Sheol, you are there.  
If I take the wings of the morning  
and settle at the farthest limits of the sea,  
even there your hand shall lead me,  
and your right hand shall hold me fast.

### ANTHEM

*Gloria (from Mass in G)*

*The Chancel Choir*  
Franz Schubert (1797-1828)  
*Hanna Golodinskii, soprano*  
*Thomas Woodman, bass*

### SECOND LESSON

### Acts 16: 6-15

They went through the region of Phrygia and Galatia, having been forbidden by the Holy Spirit to speak the word in Asia. When they had come opposite Mysia, they attempted to go over Bithynia, but the Spirit of Jesus did not allow them. So, passing by Mysia, they

went down to Troas. During the night Paul had a vision: there stood a man of Macedonia pleading with him and saying, "Come over to Macedonia and help us." When he had seen the vision, we immediately tried to cross over to Macedonia, being convinced that God had called us to proclaim the good news to them. We set sail from Troas and took a straight course to Samothrace, the following day to Neapolis, and from there to Philippi, which is a leading city of the district of Macedonia and a Roman colony. We remained in this city for some days. On the Sabbath day we went outside the gate by the river, where we supposed there was a place of prayer; and we sat down and spoke to the women who had gathered there. A certain woman named Lydia, a worshiper of God, was listening to us; she was from the city of Thyatira and a dealer in purple cloth. The Lord opened her heart to listen eagerly to what was said by Paul. When she and her household were baptized, she urged us, saying, "If you have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come and stay at my home." And she prevailed upon us.

#### SERMON

*When the Spirit Says No*

*Rev. Richard S. DenUyl, Jr.*

#### HYMN

*Give to the Wind Thy Fears*

*Pilgrim (red) Hymnal 337*

#### PASTORAL PRAYER

#### RESPONDING TO GOD

#### CALL TO OFFERING

*Sherry Myer*

#### OFFERTORY ANTHEM

*Benedictus (from Mass in G)*

Franz Schubert  
*Hanna Golodinskii, soprano*  
*Drew Seigla, tenor*  
*Thomas Woodman, bass*

**\*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**

*Now Thank we all Our God*

*Pilgrim (red) Hymnal 29*

**\*BENEDICTION**

**\*CHORAL RESPONSE**

**POSTLUDE**

*Trumpet Tune in D*

David N. Johnson (1922-1987)

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*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.*

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The flowers in the Meetinghouse this morning are given in loving memory of:

**Catherine G. Weigner**

by her sons, Stephen and Ronald Weigner.

**Esther and Edward Coleman**

by their daughter, Judy Coleman.

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](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**

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.

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#### **NEWS AND NOTICES**

#### **Undie Sunday is TODAY!**

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 90 minutes, 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 your 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](mailto: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 THIS 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 being sold**



during Fellowship Hour today, and in the Church Office during the week. 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, 9 am to noon in the Binney Conference Room.

If you prefer a weeknight or Saturday mornings, we can arrange to have the room available at one of those times. You can contact us at [kettlequilters@gmail.com](mailto: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**

The group has selected "The Sparrow Sisters" by Ellen Herrick for its last spring read before our summer break. On **May 12** we will begin discussing this novel each Thursday morning from 10-11:30 am in the Binney Conference Room. "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. Please reserve your copy with the Greenwich Library or call Jean Bruder at 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 Daniels 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

informs a variety of movement styles and expression. Best of all, there is no experience necessary – just bring your “fake it ‘til 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](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*

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