

*Old Greenwich,  
Connecticut*

THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL  
CHURCH OF GREENWICH

*United Church  
of Christ*

*Founded in 1665*

# The Sixth Day after Sandy (All Saints Sunday) 4 November 2012



*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 worship here at First Congregational Church. The storms of life can be overwhelming. Just when we think that we are safe, sound, and in control, a storm comes along. These storms can, at least, make us uncomfortable and, at worst, shake our very foundation. We must remember that we are not alone. Through the toughest times, God is with us. In this time of year, we also remember the Communion of Saints, how those who have gone before continue to be with us in spirit. May the spirit that connects us to one another and to God be present in this time of respite and worship.

---

### **PREPARING FOR WORSHIP**

Please silence all cell phones and other electronic devices.

\*All who are able please stand.

‡Seating of latecomers.

#### **PRELUDE**

*Allegro*

*Dr. Craig Scott Symons, organ*

Robert Powell

#### **CALL TO COMMUNITY**

*Please sign and pass the red book.*

### **PRAISING GOD**

#### **CHORAL CALL TO WORSHIP**

*Peace Like a River*

*The Cherub Choir*

Traditional

*Donald Haviland, director*

*Debbie Berner, piano*

#### **CALL TO WORSHIP**

*Leader: My heart is ready, O God, my heart is ready!*

*People: I will sing, I will sing, praises! Wake up, my soul!*

*Leader: Wake up, O harp and lyre! I will awake the dawn!*

*People: I will thank you, O God, among all people!*

*All: Let us praise and adore the god of Creation!*

Vilma M. Machin; transl. by Rose M. Grijalva

\*‡HYMN

*We Gather Together*

Pilgrim (red) Hymnal 21

*\*All who are able, please remain standing for the  
Opening Prayer through the Gloria.*

\*OPENING PRAYER (*in unison*)

Come, O Creator, O Immensity of love, O Eternity of mercy.  
Come, and be with us and in us and beside us and over us. Be as  
hands upon us, and fashion us for shining. Be as warmth within  
us, and fire us for caring. Be as strength beside us, and shape our  
lives for healing. Abide in our prayers, the spoken and the  
unspoken; and make your Word come true in our flesh, through  
Jesus Christ our Redeemer, 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

Pilgrim (red) Hymnal 513

*Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; As it  
was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end.  
Amen. Amen.*

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

*(After the Children's Message, the Church School children and teachers  
will leave for their classrooms. Children in second grade and older will  
leave independently. Children in kindergarten and first grade will meet  
their teachers at the back of the Meetinghouse (narthex) and will go to  
their classrooms as a group.)*

## HEARING GOD'S WORD

### FIRST LESSON

*Olivia Hartwell*

#### Hebrews 12:1-3

**D**o you see what this means—all these pioneers who blazed the way, all these veterans cheering us on? It means we'd better get on with it. Strip down, start running—and never quit! No extra spiritual fat, no parasitic sins. Keep your eyes on Jesus, who both began and finished this race we're in. Study how he did it. Because he never lost sight of where he was headed—that exhilarating finish in and with God—he could put up with anything along the way: Cross, shame, whatever. And now he's there, in the place of honor, right alongside God. When you find yourselves flagging in your faith, go over that story again, item by item, that long litany of hostility he plowed through. That will shoot adrenaline into your souls!

*From The Message*

### SCRIPTURE ANTHEM

*O Lord, When My Last End is Come*

*The Chancel Choir*

J. S. Bach

### SECOND LESSON

*Olga Hartwell*

#### Luke 14:16-24

**J**esus followed up. “Yes. For there was once a man who threw a great dinner party and invited many. When it was time for dinner, he sent out his servant to the invited guests, saying, ‘Come on in; the food’s on the table.’

“Then they all began to beg off, one after another making excuses. The first said, ‘I bought a piece of property and need to look it over. Send my regrets.’

“Another said, ‘I just bought five teams of oxen, and I really need to check them out. Send my regrets.’

“And yet another said, ‘I just got married and need to get home to my wife.’

“The servant went back and told the master what had happened. He was outraged and told the servant, ‘Quickly, get out into the city streets and alleys. Collect all who look like they need a square meal, all the misfits and homeless and wretched you can lay your hands on, and bring them here.’

“The servant reported back, ‘Master, I did what you commanded—and there’s still room.’

“The master said, ‘Then go to the country roads. Whoever you find, drag them in. I want my house full! Let me tell you, not one of those originally invited is going to get so much as a bite at my dinner party.’”

From *The Message*

\*‡HYMN

*I Sing a Song of the Saints of God*

New Century (black) Hymnal 295

SERMON

*RSVP*

*Rev. Avery C. Manchester*

**RESPONDING TO GOD**

CALL TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

*O Sacrum Convivium*

*The Chancel Choir Ensemble*

O. Messiaen

*O sacred banquet! In which Christ is received, the memory of his Passion is renewed, the mind is filled with grace, and a pledge of future glory to us is given. Alleluia.*

\*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

## SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

### PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

### RECEIVING OF THE BREAD AND CUP

### PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING *(in unison)*

We thank you, O God, for these moments of communion with you and each other. By these actions, we have renewed our commitment to bear your name and to follow you wherever you lead us. O Lord God, your great name be praised. Through Christ our Lord. Amen

## GOING FORTH TO SERVE GOD

### \*HYMN

*For All the Saints*

New Century (black) Hymnal 299

### \*BENEDICTION

### \*CHORAL RESPONSE

### POSTLUDE

*Trumpet Minuet*

Alfred Hollins

*\* Please join us for Coffee Hour following the worship service.*

---

The flowers in the Meetinghouse this morning are given in loving memory of Lillian and Edmund Hoffman by their families.

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](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*

---

### TODAY

#### **Church School**

Depending upon the number of children and teachers who are with us today, Rosemary will announce the plan for Church School during the Children's Message.

#### **Bible Study**

There is Bible Study today so please join us in the Lounge at 11:20 am for the study of the short book of Titus. We hope everyone made it through the storm with minimal damage to yourselves, your family and your stuff. The storm, as always, was a reminder of just how fragile and temporary our good life is. Storms, internal and external, are why we do Bible Study; our connection to God's spiritual grid so we have the power of faith to persevere.

#### **Youth and Cherub Choir Rehearsals**

The Youth Choir will rehearse today from 11:15 am to 12:15 pm in the Choir Room. Cherub Choir has no rehearsal today.



For our linc hour at 5:00 pm in the Auditorium we will simply enjoy a hot meal together which the church will provide. If you have a neighbor or know someone who could use the meal, please bring them along.

---

### NEXT WEEK

#### **Hold the Date!**

*Wonderful Wednesday* is back and will be held on *November 14* (a Wednesday, of course!) from 6:00 to 8:00 pm. Mark your calendars and look for details in the upcoming November Meetinghouse Monthly (which will be coming out soon). It's a fun time for the whole family so be sure to join us!

---

## NEWS AND NOTICES

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

**Monday, November 5:** The Rummage Room is moving on to the Thanksgiving season.

*Mark your calendars:*

**Tuesday, November 6:** Don't forget to vote! It is our privilege as American Citizens.

**Saturday, November 17:** Volunteers will be setting up the Christmas Shoppe from 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm.

**Monday, November 19:** The Christmas Shoppe opens at 1:00 pm. 50% off Thanksgiving items.

**Thursday, November 22:** *Thanksgiving Day*

**Friday and Saturday, November 23 & 24:** 50% off all items, excluding Christmas items.

**Saturday, December 1:** Last day in 2012 to leave donations until January 2, 2013.

**Saturday, December 1:** First Light Celebration 5:00 pm to 8:00 pm. Cookies, Egg Nog and shopping will be available!

**Shopping Hours:** 10:00 am to 5:00 pm Monday through Friday, and Saturday 10:00 am to 1:00 pm

**Donation Hours:** 9:30 am to 4:30 pm Monday through Thursday, and Saturday 9:30 am to 12:30 pm.

**Manager Maria's Wish List:** Children's table and chairs; baby strollers; jewelry; handbags; Thanksgiving decorations.

Whatever your experience has been this past week with the devastating effects of 'Sandy', may we remember that when we lose hope and think this is the end, God smiles from above and says, *Relax my child, it is just a bend, not the end.*

### “Hats Off” Book Discussion Group

Our next book is *Caleb's Crossing* by Geraldine Brooks. The setting is on Martha's Vineyard in the 1660's and the two main characters are Bethia, an English Puritan, and Caleb, a native Wampanoag. We were introduced to Geraldine Brooks' beautiful writing in *The People of the Book* a few years ago, and now we will be dazzled by her writing set here in New England. This book is inspired by a true story.

Come join us on Thursday mornings from 10:00 -11:30 am in the Lounge. Any questions please call Debbie Berner at 203-629-1110.

### 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. If you’ve forgotten your food items this morning, feel free to email [fccoghungermission@gmail.com](mailto:fccoghungermission@gmail.com) with your contact information and someone will pick up the food from your home.

### *Next Week at First Congregational Church*

10:00 am Worship Service – Meetinghouse  
Laity Sunday

Music by The Chancel Choir:

*Brother James’ Air* by A. Bullard

*The Secret of Christ* by Richard Shephard

\*\*\*



**linc** Worship Service 5:00 pm in the Auditorium.

There will be art, music, a message and everything is designed for all ages! This is a casual worship service so come as you are and bring all your friends!

Calendar of Upcoming FCCCOG  
Events in November

- 7<sup>th</sup>: Preschool Holiday Boutique, 11am-7 pm  
11<sup>th</sup>: Laity Sunday, 10 am  
14<sup>th</sup>: Wonderful Wednesday, 6 pm  
15<sup>th</sup>: Giving Trees Go Up  
17<sup>th</sup>: Tree Stands Set Up  
17<sup>th</sup> & 18<sup>th</sup>: H.O.M.E. Craft Sale  
18<sup>th</sup>: Harvest Sunday, 10 am  
22<sup>nd</sup>: Thanksgiving Day  
22<sup>nd</sup> & 23<sup>rd</sup>: Church Office Closed  
24<sup>th</sup>: Christmas Trees Arrive and Sale Begins!

Find us on Facebook and LIKE the page!

We're now on Twitter @FCCOGCT

Check out our new YouTube page, too!

And visit our Forum and start a conversation.



## *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

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