

The First Congregational Church of Greenwich
Founded in 1665

Children's Sunday
3 June 2018
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 on this Sunday morning. Please join us after worship for our Community Hour in the Memory Garden, weather permitting.

PREPARING FOR WORSHIP

Please silence all cell phones and other electronic devices.

*All who are able please stand.

PRELUDE

Colored Windows

Sara Rahimtula, piano

Edna-Mae Burnam

CALL TO COMMUNITY

(Please sign and pass the red Fellowship Pad found at the end of your pew.)

Rev. Patrick Collins

CALL TO THE ANNUAL MEETING

Car Westbrook

PRAISING GOD

CHORAL CALL TO WORSHIP

Angels Watching Over Me, My Lord

Cherub Choir

Traditional

Carol Woodman, director

Andrea Osker, ukulele

*** PASSING OF THE PEACE**

*** HYMN**

Enter, Rejoice, and Come In

New Century (black) Hymnal 73

GATHERING PRAYER

4th & 5th Grader Ainsley Sahrbeck

Creator God, be with us now and give us wisdom. Give us hope and make us strong. Let our hearts be filled with riches. And may we praise you, God, singing songs full of

joy. Make us all instruments of your love for all of creation.
Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

Kindergarten & First Graders

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.

THIRD GRADE BIBLE PRESENTATION

**Rev. Patrick Collins,
Rev. Avery C. Manchester, Rosemary Lamie**

3rd Grade Teachers: We, your teachers, promised to open this book and its truths to you. We reflected on its stories with you to help you have a better understanding of its message.

3rd Grade Parents: We as parents want you to grow in knowledge of Jesus Christ and his love for you. We want to open its pages with you so together we can learn its words of life.

Senior Deacon: The entire congregation is pleased to present these Bibles to you with the hope that they may be, over the years, worn with use. We will do all we can as a church to help you understand and appreciate what is written on their pages.

All: The Church's one foundation is Jesus Christ. We therefore commend to your reading and understanding the amazing story of God's love for us through his son, our savior, Jesus Christ.

ANTHEM

God Bless Families

The Children's Choir
Natalie Sleeth (1930-1990)
Dr. Craig Scott Symons, Director
Vance Briceland, piano

HEARING GOD'S WORD

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Sara Rahimtula

Psalm 100

Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth.

Worship the Lord with gladness; come into his presence with singing.

Know that the Lord is God. It is he that made us, and we are his; we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.

Enter his gates with thanksgiving, and his courts with praise. Give thanks to him, bless his name.

For the Lord is good; his steadfast love endures forever, and his faithfulness to all generations —New Revised Standard Version

MESSAGE

A Joyful Conversation

Rev. Patrick Collins,
Lola Dellascenza, Darin Jacks,
Max Kreuger, Tessa Laffan,
Marcus Lotufo, William van Rhyne,
Anna Weiksner

* HYMN

All People that on Earth Do Dwell New Century (black) Hymnal 7

THANKSGIVING & RECOGNITION

Rosemary Lamie

Leader: Today, we recognize and affirm all of our Church School teachers, with deep appreciation for their dedication and faithful fulfillment of their call to journey with our children in faith.

People: We give thanks to God for their time and talent.

Leader: It is said that faith is caught not taught. Children learn the message of God's love and presence through the patient and consistent words and actions of committed teachers.

People: Thanks be to God for those who are willing to give of themselves through the gift of teaching.

Leader: Through caring gestures and kind words, laughter and gentle encouragement, children learn of God's love and the joy of a faith community.

All: As a congregation, we give thanks to God for the blessings of time and commitment these teachers have given to our children.

PASTORAL PRAYER 4th & 5th Graders Amelie Dellascenza,
Francesca Lotufo, Sarah Bodenstein,
Matthew Golodinskii

RESPONDING TO GOD

CALL TO OFFERING 2nd Grader Addie Shubert

OFFERTORY ANTHEM The Chancel Choir
How Shall I Sing that Majesty? J. R. Daniels

*** DOXOLOGY** Pilgrim (red) Hymnal 515
Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below; Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

*** PRAYER OF DEDICATION** 2nd Grader Tommy Sahrbeck

THE SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

We practice open Communion – all who wish to know the presence of Christ and to participate in the community of God's people are welcome to receive Communion, including children of all ages, and regardless of church membership or denominational affiliation. All are welcome to the table of God.

INVITATION

PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

RECEIVING THE BREAD AND CUP

Today's communion will be by intinction. Congregants are invited to come forward down the center aisle to one of the communion stations by the chancel, receive the bread (gluten-free), dip in the cup and partake. Those who need to stay in the pew should indicate their need to be served there to one of the ushers or greeters.

Someone will come to serve you.

UNISON PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Gracious God, in gratitude, in deep gratitude, for this moment, this meal, these people. We give ourselves to you. Take us out to live as changed people because we have shared this sacrament and cannot remain the same. Ask much of us, expect much from us, enable much by us, encourage many through us. Amen.

GOING FORTH TO SERVE GOD

* HYMN

Now, Go in Joy

Now go in joy to spread the Word till all peo-ple have
heard: God em-brac-es all! Fol-low, then, the dis-
ci-ples' call: tend your neigh-bors with lov-ing care
in dai-ly work and prayer. God's own
grace em-pow-er your spir-it. A-men!

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*** BENEDICTION**

Kindergarten & 1st Grade

*** CHORAL RESPONSE**

POSTLUDE

Toccatà on “Rejoice the Lord Is King” Gordon Young (1919-1998)

* * *

Flowers in the Meetinghouse this morning are in memory of our parents by Don and Phyllis Freeman and their families.

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

A Note to Parents

Relax! God put the wiggle in children, do not feel you have to suppress it during worship. The presence of children is a gift to the church, which offers hope for all. Jesus said, “Let the children come to me.” At First Church we believe that the way we welcome children in worship directly affects the way they respond to God, the church, and to one another. To the members of our congregation, please know that a smile of encouragement is always welcome to parents with small, active children.

For those who are interested, we do have child care available for babies and toddlers every Sunday, for the entirety of the church service, in the preschool classrooms. For toddlers and preschoolers who stay in church, there is a PrayGround in front of the chapel with a rug and a few quiet play things. The first pew of the chapel is reserved for parents to supervise their children if you do not need to be on the rug with them. There are also additional children’s books on the bookshelves near the back of the chapel.

Radio Ministry

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.

NEWS AND NOTICES

TODAY

Parish Nurse

Sue Asselin, RN, is available for blood pressure screenings and health consultations following today's worship service. If our Community Hour is held outside, Sue will be in the Memory Garden. If held inside, due to weather, Sue will be available in her new office, to the right of the Auditorium stage.

Youth Mission Trip Car Wash Fundraiser

Today, following the Church Service, youth attending the Summer Mission Trip to Houston, Texas invite you to a car wash fundraiser in the parking lot by the blue two-car garage. Any donations are accepted, appreciated, and will directly fund our efforts to help families who were devastated by Hurricane Harvey last summer.

Undie Sunday to Continue through June 3

The Undies Project will be receiving donations of underwear for men, women and children in need to help improve their lives, and will welcome donations of new women's panties, new men's boxers and briefs, and new children's underwear. All sizes and ages needed. All items donated will be distributed to local area organizations that help those in need. 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 Inc. was started to fulfill this need. For more information, visit www.theundiesproject.org.

UPCOMING

First Church Volunteer Day at Neighbor to Neighbor

Join your friends on Saturday, June 16 from 8:30 – 10:30 or 10:30 - 12:30. We will be stocking the food pantry and sorting and displaying the clothing and linen contributions. Neighbor to Neighbor is located at Christ Church in Greenwich (across Putnam Avenue from the YWCA). Please contact Rosemary Lamie (RosemaryL@fccog.org) or sign up on the easel during Community Hour after church. This is a great opportunity for a parent/child team or a teen and a friend as well as individuals. Children 12 – 15 need to be accompanied by a parent or another adult. Hope to see you there!

Notice of the 347th Annual Meeting

The 347th Annual Meeting of the First Congregational Church of Greenwich, Old Greenwich, CT, is hereby called for Sunday, June 17, 2018, immediately following the worship service. The meeting will be held in the Meetinghouse:

- To hear the Annual Reports of the Pastors, Officers, Committees, Organizations and Departments;
- To elect Officers for the ensuing year;
- To adopt the budget for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2018
- To transact such other business as may properly come before the meeting.

Note: Child Care and snacks will be available in the Undercroft for children during the meeting.

Car Westbrook
Church Clerk

June 24 Is Our All-Church Greenwich Point Service

Sunday, June 24, we will gather at the Seaside Garden at Greenwich Point. This location is near the Old Greenwich Yacht Club, about halfway around the point. Please note: there will be no Meetinghouse worship service on June 24. Everyone is welcome at Greenwich Point for this special day, resident or not; simply state at the entrance that you're coming for the First Congregational Church service. Parking closest to the Seaside Garden will be reserved for those needing extra assistance to getting to the area. All others will park by the Clam Bake area, well before the Yacht Club. There may also be parking by the Yacht Club, depending on the activities happening

there. Please bring a picnic lunch and beach/lawn chairs with you to enjoy with your church family after worship. Should weather be bad that morning, we will revert to the Meetinghouse at 10 am. Check the church website that morning for a notice if the location is changed.

News from the Rummage Room

191 Sound Beach Avenue, Old Greenwich

Flag Day, June 14: Our flag is our national emblem, pure and simple. Behold it. Listen to it. Every star has a tongue, every stripe is articulate.

Father's Day: The Rummage Room has a great assortment of clothing for Father's Day. You will like what you see, and so will the Fathers.

First Day of Summer: Yes, we will have a summer, Virginia—beginning June 21!

Weddings: Bridal gowns and wedding party dresses—and clothing for the groom. There are some spectacular gowns and dresses.

Mgr. Leanne's Wish List: Summer shoes; table linens; summer skirts/dresses.

Shopping Hours: Monday through Friday, 10 to 5 and 10 to 1 Saturdays.

Donation Hours: Monday through Thursday 9:30 to 4:30 & Saturday 10 to 12:30. Please do not leave donations outside when the Rummage Room is closed.

Remembering: In the past years, millions of dollars have been raised by the Rummage Room from the proceeds at the Rummage Room to be given to Organizations who help children and families in need around the world. Those of you who shop and donation are like angels who help lift people to their feet when they have trouble remembering how to fly.

Next Week at First Church Music Sunday—Sunday, June 10

Join us for a celebration of word and song when all of our music ensembles conclude their season!



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

Associate Pastor: Rev. Patrick Collins

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

Administrative Assistant - Operations: Donna White

Director of Membership: Ginny Breismeister

Parish Nurse: Susan Asselin, RN

Director of Preschool: Darla Kohler Steiner

Publications Coordinator: Vance Briceland

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