

MEETINGHOUSE

THE NEWSLETTER FOR THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF GREENWICH *monthly*

HOLY WEEK 2019



WORSHIP WITH US

Every Sunday at 10 am

FCCOG 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.



First Church of Greenwich

An Open & Affirming UCC Congregation

108 Sound Beach Avenue • Old Greenwich CT 06870 • 203-637-1791 • www.fccog.org • @fccogct

Ministers:

The Members of FCCOG

Interim Senior Pastor:

Reverend Carla Dietz, carlad@fccog.org

Associate Pastor:

Reverend Patrick Collins, patrickc@fccog.org

Associate Pastor for Pastoral Care:

Reverend Avery C. Manchester, averycoe@fccog.org

Minister of Music:

Dr. Craig Scott Symons, craigs@fccog.org

Director of Family Ministries:

Rosemary Lamie, rosemaryl@fccog.org

Director of Church Administration & Finance:

Steve Summerton, steves@fccog.org

Administrative Assistant/Operations:

Wendy Spezzano, wendys@fccog.org

Director of Membership:

Ginny Breismeister, ginnyb@fccog.org

Parish Nurse:

Susan Asselin, RN, susana@fccog.org

Director of Preschool:

Darla Kohler Steiner, darlak@fccog.org

Communications Specialist:

Dalinda Rioseco, dalindar@fccog.org

Database Administrative Assistant:

Sue Wilder, susanw@fccog.org

Pastors Emeriti:

Reverend Dr. Thomas L. Stiers

Reverend Sally Colegrove



MAY 2019 HIGHLIGHTS

- May 5** Sunday Afternoons Live
Final Concert: Brian Giebler, tenor & Steven McGhee, piano
- May 8** NAMI (National Alliance on Mental Illness) Support Group
Every Wednesday Thru 5/22
- May 11** SOS (Sanity on Saturdays) Group for Busy Women with Kate Collins
- May 12** Undie Sunday
- May 15** Women's Fellowship Annual Luncheon and Quilt Raffle
- May 15** Church Council Meeting
- May 17-19** Confirmation Retreat (Off-site)
- May 19** Music Sunday
- May 27** Memorial Day - Building closed
See page 10 for complete calendar

In this issue...

May Calendar Highlights	2
From the Interim Senior Pastor	3
Avery's Book Corner.....	3
Church Life	4
Music and Arts at First Church	4
From the Building & Grounds Committee	5
Church School and Faith Formation	6
From the Parish Nurse.....	7
From the Stewardship Committee	8
Church Calendar.....	10
From First Church Preschool.....	11
Women's Fellowship Quilt Raffle	11
News from the Rummage Room.....	12

Did you know...?



...that all the services at FCCOG are live-streamed on YouTube? Now you can visually enjoy each Sunday's worship service online. Click [here](#) to access our channel.

From the Interim Senior Pastor

May is lovely, we are so blessed to be in it. May is beginnings and the presence of God in the green grass growing and the buds on the trees opened up and the way there are more people on the street and in parks saying hello to one another. There's no more ice in May and there's no turning back in May. We've arrived, we're in the thick of Spring. Find a place where a bird has made a nest and keep your eye on it. See if you can get a glimpse of an egg in there. Talk about watching life unfold! It has been a long, not so terrible winter but wow, it's good to be out and about in God's warm sun, isn't it? We are alive, we are blessed and we are sliding into Memorial Day weekend.

I'm with you as your Interim nine months now and the Search Committee is doing its due diligence to identify a fitting Settled Pastor. This is an exciting time to be church. You are doing new things, open to new ideas and renovating your Meetinghouse. You are re-emerging as a church to be reckoned with and have a strong presence in the social media sphere. Your staff is smart and capable. Your spirit is resilient. Your very being at the crossroads of town is an invitation for all to come and take part.

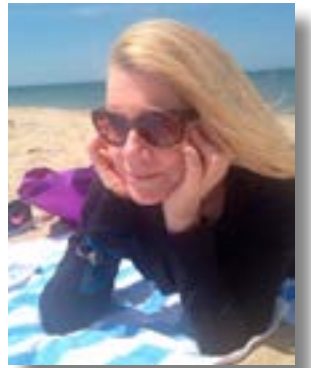
May I make a suggestion? Put more bright, colorful signage on the front lawn. Maximize your banner space and announce to the world how vibrant you are. Make a "joyful noise" about moving Sunday

Worship into the Auditorium during Meetinghouse renovations because it gives you the opportunity to change things up a bit and take a look at how you want to be a 21st Century Church. This is not the time to shut down or hide a building facelift. Now is *THE* opportunity to be a new you, without fear, without hesitation, with a bold and fierce perspective. What a blessing! What a time to reinvigorate your participation in a new church. Bring a friend. Try a new way of worshipping. Come in your jeans. Put your hair in a pony tail and enjoy the ride. We have some interesting new ideas for you this May.

Change is seldom easy or tranquil, especially during renovations. The church can anticipate some discomfort as you go through construction and that's fine, go with it. Think of it as a meditation on change and put your own positive spin on it. It's really up to you how this renovation and transition goes. It's your church, your beloved community, your opportunity to expand into your society. Tell me what I can do to assist you this month, this May, this blessed season.

Peace & grace to you,

Carla



Annual Women's Fellowship Luncheon May 15th 11:30 - 1:30

Women's Fellowship members are invited to the Annual Meeting and Luncheon on May 15th from 11:30 to 1:30 in the auditorium. Advance payment of \$15 is required, either:

(1) on-line on the [Upcoming Events](#) section of the church website or

(2) by check, payable to *Women's Fellowship*, sent or brought to the Church Office by May 10th.

There will be a business meeting with an overview of 2018-19 Women's Fellowship activities and votes on Charitable Allocations and the 2019-20 slate. We will also hear speakers from two of the recipient agencies. The winning ticket for the 49th Annual Quilt Raffle will be drawn at 1:00 pm.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

- Monday, June 3rd:** Bridge Playoff
- Sunday, June 9:** Confirmation Sunday
- Sunday, July 14:** Legacy Sunday

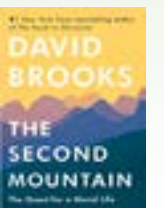
Summer 2019 Beach Services at Tod's Point
June 16 • July 21 • September 1



Avery's Book Corner

My recommendation for May is *The Second Mountain* by David Brooks. This is vital

and critically important for now. A great gift to guide us in these wild times. Please, let's study it. For a review, click [here](#).



Church Life



Flowers

Please contact **Judy Gordon at 203-637-8575** if you would like to provide flowers for the Sunday morning worship services in May or June.

Hats Off Book Study Group



We've chosen our fourth read of 2019: **The Girl With Seven Names** by Hyeonseo Lee.

"As a child, Hyeonseo Lee was one of millions indoctrinated in North Korea by the world's most secretive and brutal regime. And yet, having survived the chaos, starvation and repression of the Great Famine, she dared to escape to China in 1997, aged just seventeen.

Now an acclaimed international campaigner, her brave and remarkable voice offers the most truthful account of ordinary life in North Korea."

Every time she navigated treacherous terrain and overcame seemingly insurmountable obstacles, she had to change her name to protect her new identity.

Please join us in the lounge on Thursday mornings from 10-11:30. Contact **Jean Bruder** for info on securing your book or reserve with our Greenwich library.

Never too early to think about CAMP!



Silver Lake, AKA "God's Backyard," is the Connecticut Conference UCC summer camp. If you have a child or teen between the ages of 8 (going into 4th Grade) and 18, don't miss the chance for them to experience this amazing place and its amazing grace.

Special announcement for summer 2019!

Our own Patrick Collins will be co-leading a week for 8th, 9th and 10th graders, July 14-20.

Thanks to the generosity of the Women's Fellowship Allocations Committee, we have scholarship money available. Ask Patrick or Rosemary for details.

Registration fills up quickly! Please visit their [website](#) TODAY and click on the registration button to register.

Music & Arts at First Church by Dr. Craig Scott Symons



The final concert of the season is on **Sunday, May 5, at 4:00 p.m.** in the First Church Auditorium with **Brian Giebler, tenor**, and **Steven McGhee, piano**.

Brian and Steven have been friends and musical collaborators since meeting as students at the University of Michigan in 2010. After their 2012 performance of Ivor Gurney's piano quintet arrangement of Ludlow and Teme in Ann Arbor, the pair have wanted a chance to return to the work.



Together, they have created **At A Loss of Innocence**, a song recital featuring works by Gurney and Benjamin Britten, centered on the theme of enjoying life, love, and youth while one can, before it fades.

A free will offering accepted at this concert.



Music Sunday is May 19, and we present the theme **The Gift Of Home**. All choirs will be sharing music to inspire and uplift, and some guest instrumentalists will round out our worship experience together. Following worship, the long-standing tradition of strawberries and croissants cap off a special morning. Mark the date to invite your friends and neighbors for this wonderful service.



From the Buildings & Grounds Committee

Construction commenced on the Sunday after Easter for the final phase of upgrading and unifying our church campus. Improvements in the Meetinghouse and Memory Garden will create a church home that is more beautiful, more accessible, safer for young and old, and more welcoming to members and families.

Specific projects include opening the narthex directly to the Memory Garden and a new lift between the garden and the narthex. All stone in the Memory Garden will be repaired. In the Meetinghouse, the floors, lighting and audio systems will be replaced. Flexible seating will facilitate new possibilities for worship and performance.

A number of named gift opportunities to show personalized participation or to honor a friend or relative are available:

State-of-the-art lighting system	\$235,000
Video system	\$120,000
Narthex improvements	\$100,000
Meetinghouse flooring	\$ 80,000
Memory Garden construction	\$ 75,000
Stonework in Memory Garden	\$ 75,000
Memory Garden Doors	\$ 50,000
Memory Garden Lift	\$ 10,000
Sound Booth	\$ 10,000
Stage Curtain in Auditorium	\$ 25,000
Upholstered Chairs in Meetinghouse	\$ 250 ea.
Choir Chairs	\$ 250 ea.

Please consider a generous gift as we finish our work to create a more vibrant environment for our shared faith journey. Partial gifts toward a naming item or combining with another family is welcome. All gifts will be recognized by a plaque.

Donations may be made to First Church by personal check, direct bank withdrawal, credit card, stock transfer or text **FCCOG Donate** to 73256.

Contact **Richard Jenkins** for further information or questions.

Contact **Steve Summerton** for donations.



Take Home a Piece of History!
First Church Pews For Sale
Only \$200 ea. - 2 sizes

SPECS • Large: 13'L, 3'H, 2'D • Small: 10'L, 3'H, 2'D

For more information,
contact Steve Summerton (steves@fccog.org).

Look where our pews are going!

On Tuesday April 23, thirty pews (twenty four 13' and six 11^{1/2'}) were donated to the Good Shepherd Anglican Church in Opelika, Alabama.

On Saturday April 27th, seven 10' pews were donated to The Margaret Home for Women in East Rochester, NY. Michael Piersalls, along with the Eagle Scouts of Rochester, are building a chapel for the unstable or homeless pregnant young women the Home takes care of. More info about the Home [here](#).



MAY-JUNE 2019 SCHEDULE

- May 5** Regular Church School
Make-up Communion Class for 2nd graders & older during Church School time
- May 12** Regular Church School
- May 19** Music Sunday
Child Care Only
No Church School
- May 26** Memorial Day Weekend
Child Care only
No Church School
- June 2** **Celebration Sunday**
Children of all ages participate in Worship with Communion and a special Celebration during Community Hour including a Petting Zoo for Heifer
- June 9** Confirmation Sunday
- June 15** First Church Volunteer Day at Neighbor to Neighbor

CHURCH SCHOOL TEACHING: AN IMPORTANT MINISTRY TO OUR CHILDREN

- Now is the time to consider committing some of your time next year to minister to our children's faith formation.
- In 2019-20, we will continue our Church School Rotation Workshops for 3's & 4's, Kindergarten & 1st grade, 2nd grade, and 4th & 5th grade. Third graders will continue learning from their own "Introduction to the Bible" curriculum. Middle School classes will also have a tailored made curriculum developed by Patrick including 6th graders.
- The success of our church school program is due in large part to the tradition of asking parents to be part of the church school program by serving 2 years for each of your children. Many parents have served for more years. It is an honor system and teaching is not the only way to serve.
- You do not need to be a parent of a child currently in church school. All adults and high school students are invited to be part of our faith formation program for children.
- Volunteers sign up to be part of a team and schedule their Sundays according to personal and family commitments.
- As soon as we have formulated the scope and sequence of lessons for next year, we will have them available for your consideration.
- If you already know how you would like to participate in supporting our children's education program, you can sign up on the easel in Coffee Hour for the class you would like to teach.



**SUNDAY, MAY 5
MAKE-UP COMMUNION CLASS
FOR 2ND GRADERS AND OLDER CHILDREN**

During Church School, children and their parents will learn together about Communion at First Church and will make family communion banners. At worship on June 2, the families will sit together during the service and participate in communion with the congregation. Any family whose children did not have this opportunity in March and would like to participate, should contact Rosemary Lamie.

**SUNDAY, JUNE 2
CELEBRATION SUNDAY
PETTING ZOO for HEIFER**

Our children have been collecting donations for Heifer in order to fund the purchase of animals to help the world's needy families sustain themselves and to start businesses that supply food for others. This will be our last Sunday to donate to this important program.



**SATURDAY, JUNE 19
FIRST CHURCH VOLUNTEER DAY
AT NEIGHBOR TO NEIGHBOR**

Please join other church members to stock the food pantry, sort, and display donated clothing and linens.

Time: 8:30-10:30 or 10:30-12:30
Location: Neighbor to Neighbor
(248 East Putnam Road, Greenwich)

This is a great opportunity for a parent/child team or adult and friend. **Children under 15 years of age need to be accompanied by an adult.**



Interested or have questions about any of these opportunities? Please email Rosemary Lamie or call 203-637-1791 x820.

Did you know May is Skin Cancer Awareness Month?

As the warm weather ensues, many of us turn to outdoor activities in the warmth of the glorious sunshine. We should all take precautions to avoid damage to our skin, but children are especially vulnerable. It is estimated that 50% of our lifetime exposure to ultraviolet (UV) light occurs by age 18. The sun emits both UVA and UVB which contribute to the development of skin cancer, and cause wrinkles, sun spots, cataracts, and damage to the retina of the eye. Tanning beds emit mostly UVA light and double one's risk of developing skin cancer.

Protection from the sun:

- Use a sun block with a sun protection factor (SPF) of 15 or higher for both UVA and UVB rays.
- Reapply sun block every 2 hours, especially after excessive sweating or swimming.
- Wear sunglasses that have 100% UVA and UVB protection.
- Minimize sun exposure between 10:00 am and 4:00 pm.
- Avoid long periods of direct sun exposure - seek shade. When practical, cover skin by wearing long sleeves, pants, and a hat.
- Keep in mind that clouds are not protection from UV rays, and that altitude, sand, water, and snow, increase exposure.

Websites for Skin Cancer Prevention:

- www.cancer.org
- www.sunsafety.org
- www.skincancer.org

Websites for SPF Clothing:

- www.coolibar.com
- www.sunprecautions.com

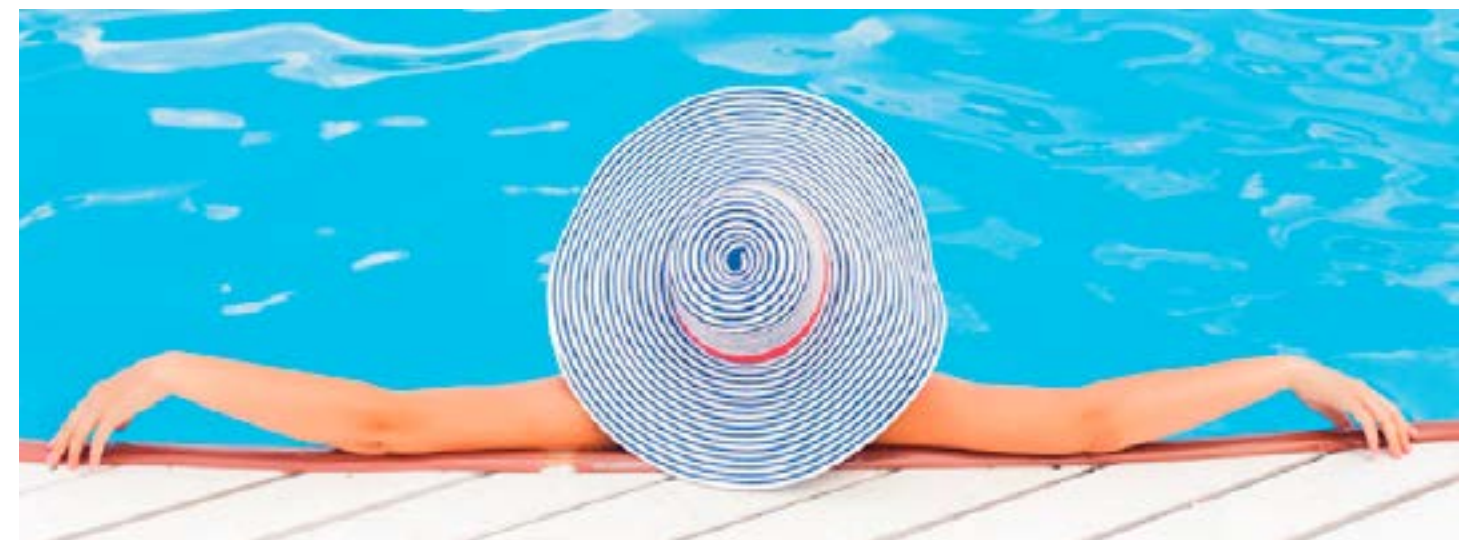
Learn more about Skin Cancer Prevention at Coffee Hour on May 5th.

Anyone can get skin cancer.

Be extra careful if you:

- Have natural blonde or red hair, fair skin, freckles
- Have had skin cancer before
- Take medications that make you sensitive to light
- Have had a lot of sunburns and burn before tanning
- Have a condition that lowers your immune system
- Have a family history of skin cancer, especially melanoma
- Have a lot of moles, or large or irregularly shaped moles (see www.cancer.org/moles)
Know your moles: examine your skin monthly and show your doctor if you see a change.

Call Sue at extension 821 if you'd like to learn more or discuss any other health concerns.



From the Stewardship Committee

We want to **THANK** everyone who has pledged as of April 15 to Stewardship 2019:

Mr & Mrs Eckhard Albrecht
Mrs Persis Alden
David & Colleen Alfano
Nancy Allen
Mr Thomas Allen & Ms Sarah Brim
Mrs Mary Ruth Allen
Mrs Anne Almy
Erling & Diane Andersen
Mr & Mrs James Anderson
Nicole Anderson & Ali Rahimtula
Millicent & Bernard Armstrong
Mr & Mrs Shawn Asselin
Mr & Mrs Gordon Assing
Mr H Kent Atkins
Mr & Mrs David Ayres
Mrs Sue Baker
Mr & Mrs Nofal Barbar
Mr & Mrs William Bennett
Mary & James Benoit
Mr & Mrs Martin Berlin
Alec Berman & Ms Kara Donahue
Mr & Mrs Gary Berner
Martha Bitner
Dr & Mrs Ronald Blasberg
Kristen Bodenstien
John & Amanda Bomann
Mr & Mrs Stephen Bonsal
Phillip Bradford & Dorothy Mueller
Mr & Mrs Robert Brady
Mr & Mrs Donald Breismeister
Thomas & Lila Brown
Mrs Jean Bruder
Neil James & Tommie Bulger
Mrs Virginia Burgess
Mark & Gia Burton
Mrs Jane Campbell
Chris Cantwell
J Robert Carey & Libby Callaway
Mr & Mrs Curtis Carlson
Anne Castine
Mrs Judith Chapman
Mr & Mrs Glen Chidsey
Mrs Mary Ann Chidsey
Thomas Clark
Mrs Maesie Clarkson Wylie
Sarah Cleworth
Rev Sarah-Anne Colegrove
Timothy & Allison Coleman
Patrick & Katherine Collins
Linnea & Scott Conley
Kenneth & Susan Conover
Jeffrey Cooper & Josephine Chen
Mr & Rev Bradley Craig
Ms Elizabeth Craig
Ms Jane Cumming
Mr & Mrs Mark De Riemer
Carol & Allan Deering
William & Elizabeth DeHaven
Mr & Mrs Arthur Delmhorst
Mr & Mrs Gregory Dempsey
Mr John Denne
Mr & Mrs Richard Derr
Reverend Carla Dietz & John Carroll
Martina Doshan
Sean & Susan Doyle

Mrs Mary Durland
Christine Early
Mr & Mrs Anders Ekernas
Susan & Cate Elliott-Bocassi
Mr & Mrs Dave Erickson
Michael & Anne Ettinger
Ms Kendra Farn-Finz & Mr Noah Finz
Ms Elizabeth Fatum
Mrs Mary Ferry
Charles Field
Ms Mary Fike & Mr Joseph Dowling
Jane & Robert Finch
Mr & Mrs Robert Fortunato
Mr & Mrs Richard Fraser
Mr & Mrs Donald Freeman
Billy & Natalie Jean Frenz
Mr & Mrs Donald Friedman
Mr Harold Frost
Mr John Fryback
Michael & Katherine Gacek
Yves & Cathy Gaden
Mrs Donna Gargagliano
Mr & Mrs Ken Garnett
Mr & Mrs Ernest Garthwaite
James & Jennifer Gartner
Gigi Gaudet
Mr & Mrs Scott Gaulocher
Mrs Patricia Geismar
Mr & Mrs Paul Ghaffari
Lile & John Gibbons
Mr & Mrs Richard Gilbert
Rebecca Gillan
Charlie & Dawn Ginstie
Mr & Mrs Bruce Glover
Mr. & Mrs. Michael Goff
Mr & Mrs Robert Goodchild
Mr & Mrs Albert Gordon, Jr
Mr & Mrs Anthony Graham
Allen Green & Ms Christie Coon
Rev Dale Greene
Richard Grellier & Ms Alison Cox
Linda Grunow
Mr & Mrs Peter Grunow
Eugene & Elizabeth Hall
Scott Hansen & Nadine Greenwood
Mr & Mrs Andrew Hanson
Christopher & Olga Hartwell
Mr & Mrs Glenn Hascher
Mr & Mrs Lawrence Hathaway
Mr & Mrs Richard Haviland, Jr
Ms Lynn Woodman Hawxhurst
Lucy Hedrick & Mr George Handley
Mr & Mrs Douglas Heidt
Mrs Robyn Helmer
Mr & Mrs William Henry
Mrs Janet Hermance
Sybren & Janette Hoekstra
Mrs Barbara Hopkins
Ms Lisa Hudson
Nancy Ludington Hume
Mrs Helen Ingraham
Mr Gerald Isaacson
Robert & Kristen Jacks
Mr & Mrs Richard Jenkins
Mr & Mrs Paul Johansen

Mr & Mrs Thomas Johnson
Mr & Mrs Wayne Jostrand
Joan Kadlec
Mi Heh Kim
Kristin & Peter Knowles
Ken Kolb & Katherine McLennan
Judith & Satish Korde
Dr & Mrs Hans Kramer
Lois Kramer-Metraux
Mr & Mrs Thomas Krempecki
Mr & Mrs Paul Kretschmann
Ms Elizabeth Kreuter
Scott & Keeley Kriskey
Alex & Leander Krueger
Stephen & Connie Kurczewski
Thomas & Terri Kutzen
Mrs Deborah LaCivita
Mr & Mrs Fred Laffan
Rosemary Lamie
Chris & Margaret Lange
Mr & Mrs William Larrabee
Shauna Leek
Catherine Lepoutre
Mr & Mrs Clement Lepoutre
Richard & Linda Lewis
Mrs Virginia Liddel
Mrs Barbara Littlefield
Frederick Lorthioir & Christina Schoen
Mario Lotufo
Mr & Mrs Robert Luce
Mr & Mrs Robert MacLea, Jr
Martin & Karen Mair
Mr & Mrs Joseph Mallory
Avery & Pamela Manchester
Mr & Mrs Bruce Marquand
Miss Carol Mawhinney
Ms Patricia McCarter
Mr & Mrs John McCue
Elizabeth McKenzie
Malcolm & Elaine McNiven
Mr & Mrs Robert Mendelsohn
Marie-Noelle Meyer
Mr & Mrs Jan Meyer
George & Alida Meyers
Brian & Paula Mickley
Mr Christopher Mill
Mr & Mrs Gary Miller
Mr & Mrs Richard Miller
Mark Mohn & Elizabeth Press
Kevin & Marcelyn Molloy
Earl Moore, III
Mr & Mrs Christopher Moore
Mrs Darlene Moore
Mr & Mrs James Morris, Jr
Robert & Mary Helen Morris
Doris Moss Davenport
Mr & Mrs Dale Myer
Nishani Naidoo & Vip Kumar
Mr & Mrs Francis Nash
Richard & Tamara Ng-Yow
Mr & Mrs Erik Norrgard
Mr & Mrs John Norrgard
Mrs Enid Norris
Mrs & Mr Paul O'Gorman
Paul & Cara Olmsted

Stewardship Committee, cont'd

Mrs Eleanore Olsen
Mr & Mrs Kenneth Olson
Jeffrey & Heather Sahrbeck
Robert & Andrea Woodman Osker
Mrs Karen Pacent
Nancy Palamarcuik
Michael Pastore & Mrs Robin Ducharme
Ms Carolyn Paulus
Mr & Mrs William Penwell
Mr & Mrs C Robton Perelli-Minetti
Anne & Friedrich Pfetsch
Mrs Nancy Pierson
Mr & Mrs Hans Plickert
Mrs Patricia Pollack
Mr & Mrs Zachariah Pratt
Mr & Mrs William Provoost, III
Laura & Paul Pugliese
Jeffrey & Victoria Quake
Benjamin Quick
Jean Raben
Mr Tom Rawson
Mr & Mrs Gifford Reed
Mr. & Mrs. Harlan Reynolds
Gregory & Virginia Richards
Mrs Barbara Richmond
Gary & Janice Riddell
Richard & Pamela Riggs
Mr & Mrs Robert Riley, III
Mrs Richard Roberts
John & Dorothy Robertson
Lynn Robertson
Mr & Mrs Arthur Robinson
Mrs Beth Rollins
Lori & Joseph Romano
William & Sandra Rose, Jr
Lilian Ruiz
Mr & Mrs Michael Russell

Mr & Mrs Leonard Saari
Joseph & Jennifer Saba
Jeffrey & Heather Sahrbeck
Dr & Mrs John Schinto, III
Mr & Mrs Eric Schless
Mr & Mrs William Schmitt
Craig & Sarah Schneider
Elizabeth & David Schrohe
Douglas & Jennifer Schwartz
Mr & Mrs Stuart Serenbetz
Mr & Mrs James Shattuck
Mr & Mrs William Sherwood
Laura Siddi
Debra Silverthorn-Roth & David Roth
Torsten & Sarah Sippel
Mr Robert Small
Daryl Smith
Robert & Barbara Smith
Ms Elen Amedeo Sotzing
Mr & Mrs Robert Speer
Mrs Libby Standish
Mr & Mrs James Starkweather
Sally Steinmetz
Dr Linnea Stenberg
Ms Angela Stevens
Dr Thomas Stiers & Judy Schilling
Ms Anne Stolley
Peter & Nancy Strohmeier
Preston Stuart
Stephen & Tami Summerton, Jr
Mr H. John Sweger, Jr
Dr Craig Symons & Vance Briceland
Mr Andrew Taylor
Mr & Mrs Andrew Tedford
Mr & Mrs Johann Thalheim
Mrs Inge Thalheim
Mrs Stella Thomas

Sheila & Richard Tolmie
Mrs Joan Torelli
Mrs Lucinda Tredwell
Mrs Barbara Van Buren
Mr & Mrs Don van Rhyn
Mr & Mrs Marc VanDermeer
Ms Anne Wachsmann
Mr & Mrs Jefferson Watkins
Mary Webster
Mr & Mrs Robert Weeks
Mr Stephen Weigner
G Michael & Maria Weiksner
Barry & Margaret Wentworth
Philip & Abigail Wentworth
Miss Caralliene Westbrook
Thomas & Lori White
Margaret Whitlock
Mr & Mrs Peter Wilder
Ms Susan Wilder
Andrew & Lesley Williams
David & Ardith Williams
Mrs Betty Woodman
Ms Carolyn Paulus
Ms Carolyn Paulus
Michael & Jennifer Worden
Mr & Mrs Chris Wurst
Jane Yates
Nancy York
Lucia Zachowski
Xin Yun & Pei Fan Zhang
Mr & Mrs John Ziack
Mr & Mrs Joshua Ziack

Make your pledge at
www.iamfirstchurch.com

Undies Sunday is Mothers' Day, May 12!



For more info, contact **Ginny Breismeister** and visit www.theundiesproject.org

Did you know that 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 will be collecting donations of underwear for men, women and children in need to help improve their lives. All donations of **new** women's panties, **new** men's boxers and briefs, and **new** children's underwear will be gratefully accepted.

All sizes and ages needed. All items donated will be distributed to local area organizations that help those in need.

If you have not yet had time to make your pledge, it is so easy to do so at www.iamfirstchurch.com.

May 2019 Church Calendar

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1 NAMI Support Group: 9:15-11:45am	2 Hats Off: 10-11:30am Handbells Rehearsal: 6:15-7:15 Chancel Choir Rehearsal: 7:30-9pm	3 Preschool Art & Silent Auction 7-9pm	4
5 Child Care: 10-11am Church School: 10-11am Worship Service: 10-11am Community Hour: 11am-12:30pm Cherub Choir Rehearsal: 11:15 - 11:45am Children's Choir Rehearsal: 11:15am-12pm Youth Choir Rehearsal: 11:15am-12:15pm Brian Giebler & Steve McGhee Concert 4-6pm	6 Quilters: 9am-12pm	7 Pastoral Care Meeting: 11am-12pm FCCOG Staff Meeting: 12:30-1:30pm Faith Formation Meeting: 7-8:30pm	8 NAMI Support Group: 9:15-11:45am	9 Hats Off: 10-11:30am Handbells Rehearsal: 6:15-7:15 Chancel Choir Rehearsal: 7:30-9pm	10	11 SOS (Sanity on Saturday) Talk/Support Group for Busy Women: 1-2pm
12 Mothers' Day and Undie Sunday Child Care: 10-11am Church School: 10-11am Worship Service: 10-11am Community Hour: 11am-12:30pm Caregivers Support Group: 11:15am-12:15pm Cherub Choir Rehearsal: 11:15-11:45am Children's Choir Rehearsal: 11:15am-12pm Youth Choir Rehearsal: 11:15am-12:15pm	13 Quilters: 9am-12pm Rummage Room Committee Meeting: 1-3pm	14 Pastoral Care Meeting: 11am-12pm FCCOG Staff Meeting: 12:30-3pm	15 NAMI Support Group: 9:15-11:45am Preschool Board Meeting: 9am-12pm WF Luncheon/Annual Meeting: 11:30am-1:30pm Church Council Meeting: 7-9pm	16 Hats Off: 10-11:30am Handbells Rehearsal: 6:15-7:15pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal: 7:30-9pm	17	18
19 Music Sunday Child Care: 10-11am Church School: 10-11am Worship Service 10-11am Community Hour: 11am-12:30pm	20 Quilters: 9am-12pm Rummage Room Committee Meeting: 1:30-2pm	21 Pastoral Care Meeting: 11am-12pm FCCOG Staff Meeting: 12:30-1:30pm Welcoming Committee Meeting: 7-9pm	22 NAMI Support Group: 9:15-11:45am Caring Ministries Meeting: 7:30-9pm	23 Hats Off: 11-11:30am	24	25
26 Child Care: 10-11am Church School: 10-11am Worship Service 10-11am Community Hour: 11am-12:30pm	27 Memorial Day Building Closed	28 Pastoral Care Meeting: 11am-12pm FCCOG Staff Meeting: 12:30-1:30pm Prayer Shawl Committee Meeting: 6:30-8:30pm	29 NAMI Support Group: 9:15-11:45am	30 Hats Off: 11-11:30am	31	

From First Church Preschool



Preschool camp: June 17-August 2
Spots are filling quickly for our popular summer program designed for preschoolers, so don't delay. Sign up at our [website](#).



Looking for a preschool for your child, or know someone who is?

Come see us! Openings are available in our school year programs for children ages 2 - 5 years.

For more information, visit our [website](#) and call to schedule a tour (203) 637-5430.

Coffee & Conversation Series

"Helping Your Child Transition To a New School, Program, or Milestone"
Wednesday, May 22nd
9:30 AM - 11:00 AM

Do you have questions about how to best support your child to separate from you, transition to a new program or setting, handle a relocation, toilet train, make friends, establish routines, prepare for the kindergarten experience, etc.? Our Education Consultant, Cindy Rzasa Bess, will be facilitating a discussion to address what's on your mind and offer her sage advice with her characteristic humor and compassion. Please RSVP to [Darla Steiner](#) if you will attend.



Cindy Rzasa Bess
Education Consultant

Women's Fellowship 49th Annual Quilt Raffle

The 2019 Women's Fellowship Raffle Quilt is a queen-sized contemporary pattern called **"Around the Twist"**. We selected batik-type fabrics in muted blue-grays and greens for this quilt. The historical name of the quilt is "Round the Twist" similar to Celtic Twist designs from Ireland. The blocks are sewn together in a way that makes the fabrics appear to intertwine. Celtic knots were used primarily in decorating church monuments and manuscripts and trace their origins to the early Roman and Byzantine empires.



Winner chosen soon

RAFFLE TICKET SALES DATES & LOCATIONS \$5 per ticket (500 tickets limit)

- During **Sunday Community Hours** May 5 & 12
- At **church office** During normal business hours
- On display at the **Rummage Room** Tickets sold at the store

Winning Ticket Drawing
at the Women's Fellowship Luncheon, 1pm

We are grateful to our dedicated group of Kettle Quilters who continue the tradition of providing a hand-stitched heirloom quilt year after year. We thank them and our faithful church community for their continued support of the mission of the Women's Fellowship.

All proceeds benefit local, national and international charities supporting women and children.

Please note: RAFFLE TICKETS ARE NOT AVAILABLE ONLINE.

Because the raffle is regulated by the state, we are unable to sell tickets online, therefore you must buy in person or send in a mail request. Participants must be 18 and older please.



First Church of Greenwich

An Open & Affirming UCC Congregation

108 Sound Beach Avenue • Old Greenwich CT 06870
203-637-1791 • www.fccog.org • [f @FCCOGCT](https://www.facebook.com/FCCOGCT)



Nonprofit Organization
U.S. Postage PAID
Stamford, CT
Permit No. 7017

NEWS FROM THE RUMMAGE ROOM

191 Sound Beach Avenue, Old Greenwich

Spring and Summer are here at The Rummage Room. Come and stop by to see all the wonderful items we have. There are plenty of shorts and skirts for all to wear on the warm days to come. Need an extra platter for that bar-b-que? We have those!

Be sure to tell your friends about our shop. There are a lot of people in our town that have never been in our store. One new customer usually becomes a regular customer from then on.

Manager Leanne's Wish List:

Handbags, Scarves and Spring Coats

Shop Hours:

Mon. - Fri. 10 am - 5 pm

Sat. 10 am - 1 pm

•

Donation Hours:

Mon. - Thur. 9:30 am - 4:30 pm

Fri. and Sat. 9:30 am - 12:30 pm

Thought for All:

I am going to try to pay attention to the spring. I am going to look around at all the flowers, and look up at the hectic trees. I am going to close my eyes and listen.

- Anne Lamott

A Fabulous Volunteer Breakfast 2019

Thank you to all our volunteers who came to our annual Breakfast. A special thank you to Sgt. John Thorme from Town of Greenwich for his educational presentation on "*Situational Awareness.*" We learned so much!

