

Welcome! Thank You for Worshiping With Us Today!

Welcome to *The First Congregational Church of Southington*. Ours is an **Open & Affirming** congregation dating from 1724 & worshipping in our present Meetinghouse since 1830. One of the larger, more vibrant *United Church of Christ* churches in New England, our church's purpose is to love & worship God; extend God's radically-inclusive love to all people everywhere; make more & better disciples of Jesus Christ; & inspire people & society to become more & more just, loving, compassionate & Christ-like. You will find our church to be an accepting, caring, non-judgmental community, where faith is renewed, lives are transformed, & power for positive living is received. It's a church **where the Spirit is alive & miracles happen!** Welcome!

Rev. Patricia L. Liberty, Interim Senior Minister

January 6, 2008

Be Still: Contemplative Worship

6:00pm

PLEASE TURN OFF YOUR CELL PHONE

INFANT/TODDLER CARE BY ADULTS DURING ALL SERVICES IN OUR CHURCH NURSERY

PREPARING TO WORSHIP GOD

Prelude Variations on "What Child Is This" Traditional English
Welcome & Church Family Announcements
Sharing the Peace of Christ
Music for Meditation *Joseph's Song* Michael Card

PRAISING GOD

The Call to Worship
LEADER: The Word is made flesh, God is in our midst. This is the good news we proclaim.
PEOPLE: In Jesus Christ, God calls us to a new community and gives a new vision of nations and races, lands and people joined together in love.

LEADER: Celebrate and renew that vision today as you sing and seek, receive and give.

PEOPLE: We come to offer ourselves and be refreshed for God's work.

*Song of Adoration: #D1(Worship Book) *We Three Kings of Orient Are* John Hopkins, Jr.

Prayer of Personal Confession (in silence)
Assurance of Forgiveness

HEARING GOD'S WORD

Scripture Lessons **Isaiah 60:1-6, Matthew 2:1-12**
Sermon FINDING OUR WAY Rev. Patricia L. Liberty
A Moment of Silent Reflection

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

A Call to Prayer
Song of Prayer 1 *O Come, All Ye Faithful* Traditional English

Words: O Come, Let us adore Him.....Christ the Lord.

(During this song, we invite you to come forward & light a prayer candle, symbolizing your prayers.)

The Call to Silence & the Ringing of Our Prayer Bell

Silent Prayer and Reflection

Song of Prayer 2

Arise, Your Light Is Come

William Walter

Words: Arise, your light is come! The Spirit's call obey.

Show forth the glory of your God which shines on you today.

The Pastoral Prayer

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

Communion Song #148

What Child Is This?

Traditional English

(During the song, please come forward, take a piece of bread & dip it into the cup. In the gold containers are gluten-free, wheat-free, corn-free, soy-free wafers for those with allergies.)

The Act of Blessing

(A blessing by anointing is offered during communion to all who wish it. After partaking of communion, go to the kneeling bench nearest you & kneel or stand for a blessing.)

*Prayer of Thanksgiving & Lord's Prayer (please join hands)

*Hymn # 144

Hark, the Herald Angels Sing

Felix Mendelssohn

(During this song, our Deacons will pass baskets to receive your offering/tithe.)

*Benediction

PLEASE JOIN US DOWNSTAIRS NOW FOR COFFEE & CONVERSATION

Coffee Hour Host: Sandy DiStefano & Sandy Thielman

Flowers: Given in memory of Dustin Arigoni by the Dobratz family.

Our 2008 Flower Chart to provide flowers in honor/memory of loved ones is now available in Memorial Hall.

Pick a date...Don't forget your phone number & Meredith or Bev will be in touch.

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Joys & Concerns for Prayer: Today we celebrate the baptism of Brian III & Matthew Marek, twin sons of Brian & Stacy. We keep Frank Rogers & family in prayer as they grieve the death of his wife, Shirley (12/26). We pray for Carol Skwiot, hospitalized last week & Bonnie Perry foot surgery (1/9). We continue to pray for Andrea Sinclair, Ted Andrzejczuk, Kim Palmer, Pat Diego, Matthew Currao (Iraq), Betsy Roberts; Vi Hart; Carolyn Beadle; Mitzi Cronin; Maureen Curtis; Pat Livingstone; our Stephen Ministers & care-receivers.

FOR PASTORAL NEEDS & EMERGENCIES call any of our ministers: Patricia L. Liberty (401-499-7752), Rick Haverly (860-620-0513), Cyndie Holden (203) 206-9507 or Linda Fernandes-Bailey (1-860-274-9907).

NO TWIGS IN JANUARY. Rehearsals will resume on February 5th at 6pm.

SCHEDULING EVENTS: It is very important that all events and meetings planned in the building get cleared and posted with the office. On many an evening the building is filled to capacity and it is not fair to bump someone who has cleared their meeting with the office ahead of time. Plan ahead 628-6958.

COFFEE HOUR HOSTS NEEDED at all services. You only have to commit to it once every 2 months. Call Barbara Stubbs (203-440-8958.)

OUR ARCHIVAL COMMITTEE IS LOOKING FOR NEW MEMBERS! Are you well organized? Do you like working on small projects? Why not join our group to organize our church's history. Meets every Thursday (except summers), 10-12N in room 201/2. For more info call Doris LaRese (860-628-7550).

OUR CHURCH'S WEBSITE, www.firstchurchsouthington.org

BREAD BAKER NEEDED!! 4th Sunday of each month. Contact Jean DeVito (276-0727).

A REMINDER TO PARENTS –Dismissal times for church school are: 9:30am – 10:45am; 11:15am – 12:30pm; 6:00pm – 7:15pm. If the service is over before dismissal time, please go to Memorial Hall until church school ends.

VILLAGE GREEN NURSERY SCHOOL REGISTRATION for church members & alumni, Saturday, January 12, 9am, Memorial Hall. Snowdate: Monday, January 14, 6pm, Memorial Hall.

PASTA DINNER Saturday, January 26th, 6-8PM in Memorial Hall. To support our February Youth Mission Trip to Mazatlan, Mexico. **\$7.50 adult & \$3/ 5yrs. and under. Tickets on Sale Today!**

LAITY SUNDAY is January 27. The theme is “Called to Follow.” If you’d like to participate, call Rev. Linda Fernandes-Bailey.

SHROVE TUESDAY PANCAKE SUPPER –MARK YOUR CALENDAR! February 5, 6pm in Memorial Hall. We’re celebrating Mardi Gras and preparing ourselves for Ash Wednesday and Lent. Men’s Club will serve a traditional pancake supper then enjoy a Mardi Gras parade, pancake race and family Lenten crafts.

SAFE CHURCH TRAINING: FREE CPR/AED TRAINING..January 16 for renewal training & January 23 for full training. Both sessions begin at 7pm in room 201/2. **Sign-up outside the Pastor’s office.**

SAFE CHURCH FIRE DRILL. Some time between January & May we’ll have a fire drill with no advanced notice. If you hear the fire alarm during the church service, follow the directions from the minister. **DO NOT GO THROUGH THE CHURCH** to get anyone. All children will be evacuated by their teachers/infant care staff (they’re usually out before anyone else).

THE COFFEE HOUSE 2nd Saturday of each month at 7:00pm, Peace Café. On January 12th enjoy *Lisa Martin*.

KID’S CLUB (grades 2-5) is going to LASER STORM, (2211 Meriden-Waterbury Tpke), on Friday, January 18, 6pm. Cost: \$13 pp. Sign-up outside Pastor’s office.