

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 Pastor

T. G. I. SUNDAY: CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP

January 13, 2008

11:15am

PLEASE TURN OFF CELL PHONES... THANK YOU !

INFANT & TODDLER CARE BY ADULTS DURING ALL SERVICES IN CHURCH NURSERY

THE ORDER OF WORSHIP

The Gathering Music
The Welcome and Welcoming One Another
Church Family Announcements

Call to Worship
*A Time for Singing

*Prayer of Confession (Responsive)

Leader: Forgive us Lord, for keeping our distance. We are more comfortable worshipping you from afar. We call you all-powerful and all knowing because those words keep us from being too familiar with you.

People: Forgive us for keeping our distance.

Leader: We read about you, speculate about you, argue about you, and think we know about you. We don't know if we can know you.

People: Forgive us for keeping our distance.

Leader: We're polite and respectful, reserved and cautious when it comes to being religious. We're even nervous about having you get too close to us.

People: Forgive us for keeping our distance.

Leader: At the same time we long to know you and be known by you. Help us in our confusion.

ALL: Forgive us for keeping our distance. Amen.

Words of Assurance

Children's Message
Children & Teachers Exit to Church School

Scripture Lessons

Sermon

"COME AND SEE"

JOHN 1: 29-42

Rev. Linda Fernandes-Bailey

Prayers of the Church

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

(Please come forward, break off piece of bread & dip it into cup. In the gold container 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 either kneeling bench, & kneel or stand.)

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

*Song **(During this song, an offering will be received to support our church & its ministries & missions)**

*Benediction

*Response

PLEASE JOIN US DOWNSTAIRS FOR COFFEE & CONVERSATION

Greeters: Jennifer Thomas, Liz Rogers

Coffee Hour Hosts: Betsy & Tom Casey

Flowers: Are given in loving memory of our parents Adeline & Leslie Bacon and Mary & Frank Huber by Beverly and Bob Huber.

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, and Meredith or Bev will be in touch.

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Joys & Concerns for Prayer: We celebrate with Matt, Bonnie & Jenna Plourde the adoption of Owen Tuan (10/17/2007).

We pray for Cherry Reiniger and Elaine Barrasso who were hospitalized last week. We continue to pray for Dorothy Beadle, Bonnie Perry, Andrea Sinclair, Ted Andrzejczuk, Pat Diego, Matthew Currao (Iraq), Betsy Roberts; Vi Hart; Mitzi Cronin; Maureen Curtis; Pat Livingstone; our Stephen Ministers & care-receivers.

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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).

ALTAR FLOWERS are needed next Sunday (1/27). If you would like to donate flowers in MEMORY/HONOR of a loved one call Bev Huber (621-0871) by Tuesday, 1/22.

NO TWIGS IN JANUARY. Rehearsals will resume on February 6th 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 our 6:00pm, service. You only have to commit to it once every 2 months. Call Barbara Stubbs (203-440-8958.)

OUR CHURCH'S WEBSITE, www.firstchurchsouthington.org

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.

PASTA DINNER THIS 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." LAST CHANCE 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.

FREE CPR/AED TRAINING: on **January 23 for full training.** Session 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).

LOST: Ladies navy pea coat hung in Memorial Hall on Sunday, January 6. Keys in pocket. Also on January 13 another coat, a brown coat with leopard fur on collar/hood with leather gloves in pockets. Please check your closets and call the church office if you find either one (628-6958).

DEACON'S FUND OFFERING for January will benefit our February Youth Mission trip to Mazatlan, Mexico. 25 youth and their advisors will build an addition at the mission church, Villa del Sol, on the outskirts of the city.

CHOCOLATE SALE! Seeds of Hope committee will be selling Kallari chocolate in Memorial Hall after all services TODAY. Think ahead for Valentine's Day...if it lasts that long!