

**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 & worshiping 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**

**February 3, 2008**

**11:15am**

**PLEASE TURN OFF CELL PHONES... THANK YOU !**

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

“There is no shortage of epiphanies in this world. Those of us who have not yet glimpsed the full brightness of the Lord may still behold his glory, reflected all around us as we stand within the cloud.” Barbara Brown Taylor

**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 Invocation (Unison)

Immortal invisible ever wise and gracious God, lead us to that place where we see you clearly. Lead us to that place where your commandment is heard above all competing voices. Let us hear your words to Jesus that is your beloved and renew our resolve to follow him in all our ways. And so may our faces reflect the radiance of Christ in whose name we pray and for the sake of whose realm we labor. Amen.

\*Prayer of Personal Confession (in silence)

\*Assurance of Forgiveness

The Sacrament of Christian Baptism: #A1 (Worship Book)

Scripture Lessons

Matthew 17: 1-9

Sermon

“SEEING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST”

Rev. Patricia Liberty

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:** David & Gayle Rossi, Wes Williams

**Coffee Hour Hosts:** Stacy & Rebecca McCarthy

**Flowers:** Are in honor of Boy Scout Sunday.

Our Flower Chart to provide flowers in honor/memory of loved ones is 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 keep Nancy Bowman and family in our prayers as they grieve the death of Howard. We pray for Jeannette Faitella and family as they grieve the death of her brother, Herb. We celebrate the baptism of James Smith, III, (9:30) son of James and Nancy Smith and also the baptisms of Andrew and Benjamin Vroeginday (11:15), sons of Barry and Tracy Vroeginday. We pray for Wes Babkirk who was hospitalized last week. We continue to pray for Dorothy Beadle, Bonnie Perry, Andrea Sinclair, 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).

**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](http://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.

**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 (free-will offering) then enjoy a Mardi Gras parade, pancake race & family Lenten crafts.

**FEBRUARY 6<sup>TH</sup> IS ASH WEDNESDAY.** Plan to attend one of our three Services of Penance: **7AM, 12Noon** (followed by Lenten Luncheon - \$3), and **7PM**. All services will be held in our Meetinghouse.

**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).

**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.

**HOLY WEEK VIGIL:** Sign-up today for our *Holy Week Vigil*, when people will be in our chapel around the clock (Maundy Thursday 3/20, 9:00PM through Easter Sunrise, 3/23, 6:00AM) for 1 hour each, worshipping, praying, meditating on behalf of all of us. Sign up next to Pat's office today!

**YEAR-END TAX STATEMENTS** are now available in Memorial Hall. **Please pick yours up so we can save on postage!**

**BAKE SALE:** Don't miss the Music Committee Bake Sale next Sunday, Feb. 10<sup>th</sup> at 10am.

**BREAD FOR LIFE WEEK** Our week to serve is February 11 – 15. PLEASE sign-up (outside Pastor's office) to volunteer to serve from 10am – 1pm just one day that week...more if you can.

**FOOD PANTRY VOLUNTEER NEEDED** to work on Thursdays, 1:30 – 3:30PM. If you're interested call Eldon Hafford at Bread for Life (276-8389).

**SUMMER CAMP:** Our *United Church of Christ* runs a wonderful summer camp experience for children & teens at *Silver Lake Confererence Center* in Sharon, CT. Brochure & registration is now available on-line at [www.ctucc.org](http://www.ctucc.org) (Click on "Silver Lake"). We also have some scholarship assistance available. See Karlene Archambeault or Carole Lantz.