

The First Congregational Church
(United Church of Christ)
Canton Center, Connecticut

September 21, 2008

10:00 A.M.

A COLLECT

to be used upon entering the Meeting House

With your love seek us, God, and find us that we may find ourselves and our places in your kingdom. With your light awaken us, God, and give us a second vision to seek out neglected tasks and the strength to accomplish them. With your truth guide us, God, as we make our pilgrimage. And may we find it through Jesus Christ, our Redeemer. Amen.

-William Smith

CHIMES

Bob Oswald

INTERESTS OF THE FELLOWSHIP

PRELUDE: "Air" from "Water Music"

-Handel

As the prelude begins, let us reflect upon these words from the prophet Isaiah: "For thus said the Lord God, the Holy One of Israel: In returning and rest you shall be saved; in quietness and in trust shall be your strength." Let there at this time be a quietness among us as we prepare to worship God in spirit and in truth.

CHORAL INTROIT

CALL TO WORSHIP

*HYMN 7 (*Pilgrim*)

"Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise"

*PRAYER OF INVOCATION (in **unison**) followed by

THE LORD'S PRAYER (using debts and debtors)

Almighty God, we come seeking you in the midst of our joy and our brokenness, as individuals and as a community. Move among us during this hour of worship. By the power of your Holy Spirit, turn us to your truth in our thoughts, prayers, and songs and in all our living. For we pray in the name of Jesus Christ, and also saying, Our Father...

(from the Chalice Hymnal, amended)

*GLORIA PATRI (*Pilgrim* #513)

UNISON READING # **95** p. 531 (*Pilgrim*)

OFFERTORY: "Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love"

-Ghana folk song/arr. Colvan
Senior Choir

*DOXOLOGY (*Pilgrim* # 515)

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

A MOMENT OF SILENCE FOR PERSONAL REFLECTION

followed by THE PASTORAL PRAYER and ORGAN RESPONSE

*HYMN **366** (*Pilgrim*)

"God of Grace and God of Glory"

SCRIPTURE: 1 Thessalonians 5:12-19 (Pew Bibles, N.T. p. 189)

SERMON:

"IS IT THAT EASY?"
The Rev. Jim McNair

*HYMN **217** (*Pilgrim*)

"Lord of All Hopefulness"

*BENEDICTION

*CHORAL RESPONSE

*POSTLUDE: "Now Thank We All Our God"

-Karg-Elert

(*All who are able, please stand)

Sarah LeGeyt

Director of Christian Education & Youth

Mary Lou Keefe

Organist; Director of Music

Dave Ayres

Liturgist

Lydia Petersen / Dave Ayres

Duty Deacons

Evelyn Sealand and Bev Sealand

Greeters

Gina and Jim Magennis

Ushers

THE FLOWERS today are given by Ralph and Marilyn Ehrhardt, Sr., Ralph Ehrhardt, Jr., and Brian Ehrhardt in memory of Charles and Ruth Evanyo, George and Edith Johnson, Ralph Johnson and Minnie Wilder.

WE CORDIALLY WELCOME those who are visitors to this church and to this morning's worship service. Please sign the guest book in the vestibule. Or, fill in a Friendship Card found in the pews. Also found in with the Friendship Cards are Pew Envelopes. Please feel free to use them for any donation.

WE WELCOME as our guest preacher today the Rev. James McNair. He served as Associate Minister for the First Church in New Britain from 1986 to 1993. For the last fifteen years he has worked as a financial advisor. Jim currently lives in Berlin, CT.

PLEASE JOIN US after worship today for a time of refreshment and fellowship in the Parish Hall.

JUNIOR CHOIR BEGINS TODAY at 11:15 AM in the Music Room. Children Grade 3 – Grade 8 are invited to join.

JUNIOR YOUTH FELLOWSHIP (Grades 6,7,8) kicks off today at 11:30 AM in the double classroom for pizza lunch and meeting. Grades 6, 7, 8 are invited to come join the JYF.

ANNUAL CHICKEN PIE SUPPER AND HARVEST FAIR will take place on Saturday, October 4. **SIGN-UP** for a job on the kitchen door. See the bulletin board regarding the **HARVEST FAIR** booths. There are many ways to help!

CHICKEN PIE SUPPER RESERVATIONS ARE A MUST. Reservations may be made today and next Sunday at coffee hours. Or, contact Bev Sealand at 667-2776 or Evelyn Sealand 693-4140. Supper seatings are at 5, 6, or 7 PM.

DEADLINE IS TODAY for submitting items to the church office for the October issue of *The Churchmouse*.

OUR MISSION COLLECTION FOR SEPTEMBER will be items for Give2theTroops, an organization based in Rocky Hill which prepares care packages to be sent to our service men and women. Lists of suggested items are on the Mission Box by the kitchen.

SENIOR CHOIR: Monday, 7:00 P.M.

BELL CHOIR: Thursday, 7:00 P.M.

SENIOR YOUTH FELLOWSHIP (Grades 9-12): Sign up on the SYF bulletin board for the hike on Oct. 5, to Leatherman's Cave on the Mattatuck Trail with Leaders Jim and Cathy Koplak.

NEXT SUNDAY IS MISSION SUNDAY. Our guest preacher will be The Rev. Da Vita D. McAllister, Associate Minister for Youth and Young Adult Ministries for the Conn. Conference of the UCC.

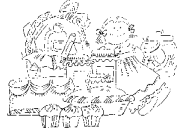
WARNING OF A SPECIAL MEETING of the congregation to be held after worship on Sunday, September 28, 2008, to request authorization from the congregation for expenditures from Capital Campaign funds.

The First Congregational Church
Canton Center, Connecticut
(United Church of Christ)



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E-mail cantoncenterchurch@snet.net
www.cantoncenterchurch.org

HARVEST FAIR - Saturday, October 4, 3-7 PM
Plans for our Annual Harvest Fair are underway. Please consider donating your time as a booth chair or items to make our fair a success.



BOOTHS

Arts & Crafts

Chairpersons: **Carmen Mills and Peg Carlton**
Donations from the talented and creative. Handmade items in any media are welcome. Those of you who knit, sew, crochet, stencil, work with wood, paint – we're looking for you!

Candy

Chairpersons: **Anna Burbank & Grace Mauger**
Donations of candy, fudge, penuche, peanut brittle, caramel corn, chewy or hard candies, chocolate, prepackaged candy or the penny candy type.

Baked Goods

Chairperson: **Kim Treadwell**; Assistant Chairperson needed.

Donations of baked goods such as breads, pies, coffee cakes, muffins, cookies or brownies. (Please list ingredients for allergies. Thank you.)

Plants and Flowers

Chairperson needed.

Donations of house plants, flowers, small shrubs, dried flowers, bulbs, cuttings with labels and instructions, if possible.

Quilt Drawing

Chairperson: **Barbara Checksfield**
Quilts graciously made and donated by **Peg Carlton, Cindy Rockwell** and **Sue Bahre**. The quilts will be on display and tickets will be on sale prior to the Fair during coffee hours and during the Fair as well.

White Elephant

Norm Robinson, Diane Mankowski; Jim and Gina Magennis

Donations of gently used and clean items. **Please, no donations after 2 P.M. Friday before the Fair day.**

Harvest Table

Chairperson: **Kim Bowen**; *co-chair needed.*
Donations of fruits, vegetables, jellies, jams, honey, pickles, canned goods, pumpkins, syrup, herb vinegars, cheese, etc.

Tea Cup Auction

Chairpersons needed.
Donations of gift certificates, gift baskets, items or services. Tickets may be purchased before and during the Fair.

DONATIONS FOR THE FAIR BOOTHS will be accepted (rooms in the church school will be marked with the names of the booths) any time after church school on **Sunday, September 28**, and the following week. Please consider helping to make this Fair a success. Also, if you are interested in co-chairing the Fair, please contact Fair Chairperson, **Marianne Burbank** 693-2687. Thanks.

09/21/2008