

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

November 2, 2008

10:00 AM

ALL SAINTS' DAY / COMMUNION SUNDAY

CHIMES

Bob Oswald

INTERESTS OF THE FELLOWSHIP

PRELUDE: "Holy Ghost with Light Divine"

-arr. Hustad

CALL TO WORSHIP: (**responsively**)

Come, all who are thirsty, whose souls are fainting.

Come, all whose troubles seem overwhelming.

The Source and Creator of all things welcomes us.

God hears our cries and is ready to help us.

Come, all who are pure, upright, and blameless.

Come, all who dwell day by day in God's realm.

The Messiah has more to teach us.

Jesus turns us from seeking honor to humble service.

Draw near and hear the word of our God.

Open your lives to the Spirit who fills all things.

We sense the presence of truth seeking to enter us.

We feel the love of God is eager to embrace us.

*HYMN 272 (*Chalice*)

"The Church's One Foundation"

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

THE LORD'S PRAYER (using debts and debtors):

O God, our true home, we come together to unite our stories with those of our spiritual ancestors. Some of us have come from desert places, desperate for nourishment. Some of us come from places of abundant harvests and yet are not satisfied. You are among us all, a living God, present in ways we have not yet realized. We come to learn, to let what we learn mold and change us, to find courage and energy to live by your direction. We bring our joyous worship, confident of your welcome to us. In Jesus' name we pray, and also saying, *Our Father...*

*GLORIA PATRI (*Chalice* #35)

OFFERTORY: "Pie Jesu"

-Fauré

*DOXOLOGY (*Chalice* #46)

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION: (in **unison**)

Let your Word be at work in us, gracious God, and through the offerings we present for your blessing. We offer here our support for the work of teaching, preaching, and good counsel, our assistance for those who are burdened and hungry and lost, our encouragement for questioners, seekers, and risk-takers intent on leading a life worthy of your approval. We are all your students. Let us also be your humble servants, through the offering of our substance and ourselves. Amen.

A MOMENT OF SILENCE FOR PERSONAL REFLECTION

followed by THE PASTORAL PRAYER and ORGAN RESPONSE

*HYMN 568 (*Chalice*)

"Tis the Gift to be Simple"

SCRIPTURE: 1 Thessalonians 2:9-13 (Pew Bibles, N.T. p. 187)

Matthew 23:1-12 (Pew Bibles, N.T. p. 23)

SERMON:

"TIS A GIFT TO BE HUMBLE"

*COMMUNION HYMN 402 (*Chalice*)

"According to Thy Gracious Word"

SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER:

All who profess faith in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior are welcome to receive the Bread and the Cup. The deacons will administer communion to the congregation as seated. We partake of the elements after all have been served, as one body in Christ.

*HYMN 637 (*Chalice*)

"For All the Saints"

*BENEDICTION

*RESPONSE

*POSTLUDE: "Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken" -arr. Hustad

(*All who are able, please stand)

The Rev. Susan M. Prichard	Interim Minister
Sarah LeGeyt	Director of Christian Education & Youth
Mary Lou Keefe	Organist; Director of Music
Barbara Lowell and Matt Solomon	Duty Deacons
Ron Olejniczak	Duty Trustee
Bill and Ashley Deming	Greeters
David Solomon and Drew Baugher	Ushers
Grant and Lori Hagedorn	Coffee Hour Hosts

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THE FLOWERS today are given by Joyce Lagana in memory of her husband, Santino Lagana, and sons Mark and Harold Carpenter.

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.

NURSERY CARE is available in the lower level for infants through 2 years old.

LARGE PRINT COPIES of today's bulletin are available on the ushers' tables in the back of the church. Large print editions of the Chalice Hymnal are also available for use during worship.

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

Please see bulletin insert for announcements



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ANNOUNCEMENTS – SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 2008

CHERUB CHOIR, under the direction of Judy Robinson, begins today at 11:15 AM for children ages 4 – Gr. 2. They will rehearse weekly in the Music Room for Christmas Eve and pageant.

JUNIOR CHOIR: Today, **11:30** AM, Music Room. Note new time.

SPECIAL NEEDS AT THE CANTON FOOD BANK at the moment are for peanut butter, dry cereal and juice.

CHRISTMAS WREATHS: Order from the Confirmation Class during the coffee hour. Pick up Dec. 7th. Last chance to order.

BUTTERBRAIDS FUNDRAISER: Today's the last day to order ButterBraids from SYF at the coffee hour, for delivery Nov. 23.

SYF: PURCHASE TRANS-SIBERIAN ORCHESTRA TICKETS at coffee hour for a concert on Nov. 30th. See Rachel Baugher.

PAGEANT ENSEMBLE FORMING for students Grade 5 and older. If you play an instrument and would like to perform on December 14th for the Christmas pageant, please contact Bob Oswald 693-9092.

FALL WORK DAY TODAY! At Noon, come and help the Trustees get the church grounds ready for winter. Pizza lunch provided.

OUR MISSION FOR NOVEMBER is the "Brown Bag" food drive. Bags will be handed out today. Please return food donations to the buffet counter in the Parish Hall or under the stairs by the lower Parish House entrance by November 16.

THE FALL MEETING OF THE FARMINGTON VALLEY ASSOCIATION IS TODAY in conjunction with the Northern Regional meeting. Place: First Church, East Hartford; 2:00 – 4:30 PM. Any interested church member is welcome to attend.

EXTRA HALLOWEEN CANDY may be donated to the deacons for post-grad care packages. Please leave it in the church office.

COMING UP

SENIOR CHOIR: Monday, 7:00 PM.

DIACONATE: Tuesday, 7:00 PM.

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Announcements - November 2, 2008, continued

BELL CHOIR: Thursday, 7:00 PM.

BIBLE STUDY: Tuesday, 10:30 AM is the first session. "Filmed on location in Israel, *Faith Lessons* is an in-depth video tour of the buried, distant, or otherwise forgotten places where the stories of the Bible actually happened." The first five-week segment will look at the ancient Hebrews as they struggled to become God's people. Each week is self-contained, so you can move in or out of the group as it fits into your schedule. All materials will be provided.

November 4- Standing at the Crossroads: Tel Gezer

November 18- Wet Feet: Jordan River

November 25- First Fruits: Tel Jericho

December 2- Confronting Evil: Tel Beth Shemesh

December 16- Iron of Culture: Tel Azekah

Please let Rev. Sue know if you plan to take part so that enough materials will be available.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION COMMITTEE: Next Sunday, 8:45 AM.

MISSIONS COMMITTEE: Next Sunday, 9:00 AM.

STEWARDSHIP SUNDAY is next Sunday, November 9. Please submit your pledge form by next Sunday. Extra pledge forms are on the information table in the Parish House by the kitchen door.

U.N.I.C.E.F. "Trick or Treat" boxes: Please return by Nov. 9.

SYF LUNCH AND A MOVIE: Next Sunday, 11:30 AM. Bring a bag lunch; dessert will be provided.

PRIME TIMERS' regular monthly meeting is Wednesday, November 12, at Noon, in the Parish Hall. Please bring a sandwich; dessert and beverage will be provided. The program will be a lecture by Art Horn on "The History of Weather." Following the lecture will be a meeting to discuss plans for next year.

ECUMENICAL THANKSGIVING SERVICE for Canton churches will take place on Sunday, November 23, at 4:00 PM at the Collinsville Congregational Church. *Please note that the time has changed to 4:00 PM* from the notice in the November Churchmouse.