

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

January 11, 2009

10:00 AM

BAPTISM OF JESUS

CHIMES

Lydia Petersen

INTERESTS OF THE FELLOWSHIP

PRELUDE: "Largo"

-Dvorak

CHORAL INTROIT

CALL TO WORSHIP: (**responsively**)

The powerful voice of God created all worlds.
That same voice calls us to worship.

**Ascribe to our God glory and strength
Come before God's glorious majesty.**

God's strength shakes the wilderness.
That same strength is offered to people of faith.

**The flames of God penetrate our cold hearts.
May God bless all people with true peace.**

Come together to remember your baptism.
Gather to celebrate the Spirit's gifts.

**The heavens open to us at the Word of God.
Surely God forgives and makes whole.**

*HYMN 713 (*Chalice*)

"God of Our Life"

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

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

**In the beginning, O God, you fashioned a universe.
Each star and planet had its beginning in you. Out of the
void, you brought light and life. Through eons of creativity,
you have acted, and today we are here, inheritors of an
amazing process, tiny specks in the limitless reaches of time
and space. And you are here, waiting to greet us. As you
acted in our baptism, you are acting still to make all things
new within us and among us. Let your light awaken us and
your Spirit empower us for faithful living. In Jesus' name we
pray, and also saying, *Our Father...***

*GLORIA PATRI (*Chalice* # 35)

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

RESPONSIVE READING #737 (*Chalice*) Psalm 29

OFFERTORY: "Hallelujah, Round of Praise" -Mozart/Lovelace
Senior Choir

*DOXOLOGY (*Chalice* # 46)

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

**Mighty God, you have given us everything we have.
You have granted us life. You have poured out abiding love
on our behalf. You have made us rich. We share out of this
awareness, and because we care about people who do not
know you, people who have not shared your abundance,
people who have defied your commandments, people who
need your love. Bless our gifts to do the work you intend.
Amen.**

*HYMN 658 (*Chalice*)

"Restless Weaver"

***Church School children may pass to their classrooms
when the congregation begins singing.***

A MOMENT OF SILENCE FOR PERSONAL REFLECTION

followed by the PASTORAL PRAYER and ORGAN RESPONSE

*HYMN 371 (*Chalice*)

"Wade in the Water"

SCRIPTURE: Mark 1:4-11 (Pew Bibles, N.T. p. 32)

Acts 19:1-7 (Pew Bibles, N.T. p. 128)

SERMON:

"WADE IN THE WATER"

*HYMN 334 (*Chalice*)

"Sing My Song Backwards"

*BENEDICTION

*RESPONSE

*POSTLUDE: "Festival Prelude on 'Lobe Denherren'" -arr. Wagner

(*All who are able, please stand)

The Rev. Susan M. Prichard	Interim Minister
Sarah W. LeGeyt	Director of Christian Education & Youth
Mary Lou Keefe	Organist; Director of Music
Geri Bunnell and Curt Johnson	Duty Deacons
Dan Towle	Duty Trustee
Bob and Kristin Oswald	Greeters
Whitney and Byko	Coffee Hour Hosts

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

THE FLOWERS today are given in loving memory of their parents and grandparents, George and Angela Zamborsky and Mary Byko, by the Byko family.

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 with the Friendship Cards are Pew Envelopes. Please feel free to use them for any donation.

NURSERY CARE is available in the lower level of the Parish House 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 for refreshment and fellowship.

Please see bulletin insert for announcements



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ANNOUNCEMENTS – SUNDAY, JANUARY 11, 2009

JUNIOR CHOIR: Today, 11:15 AM in the Music Room.

JYF PIZZA LUNCH & MOVIE: Today, 11:30 AM.

DEADLINE IS TODAY for submitting annual reports to the church office. Officers and Committee Chairs, please note.

THE MISSION COLLECTION FOR THE MONTH OF JANUARY is **new books for all ages** for Interval House. Please leave donations in the Mission Box by the church kitchen door.

2009 OFFERING ENVELOPES are on the information table by the kitchen. Please save mailing costs by picking yours up. Envelopes are available for anyone who wants them.

HELP OUR YOUTH ON AN INTERNATIONAL MISSION PROJECT. (see insert for details) They will be selling Mission Shares for \$25 each. Buy a share in celebration, in honor or in memory of a loved one. Buy a share for each member of your family! One or more shares will entitle you to a spaghetti dinner for 2 and a Mission Trip presentation on Saturday, May 9th. The kids will be selling shares at coffee hour through January.

COMING UP

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY: Monday, 10:00 AM.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES: Monday, 6:30 PM.

MUSIC COMMITTEE: Monday, 6:40 PM.

SENIOR CHOIR: Monday, 7:00 PM.

Announcements, January 11, 2009, continued

PRIME TIMERS will meet Wednesday at 12 Noon for “Souper” Wednesday. Please bring a can of soup (not creamed) to add to the mixture for lunch. The program will be “The Game” (Scattergories). Dessert & coffee provided.

CHURCH COUNCIL: Wednesday, 7:00 PM.

BELL CHOIR: Thursday, 7:00 PM.

SUPERBOWL GRINDERS will go on sale during the coffee hour beginning next Sunday, January 18, and also January 25. They will be prepared by the JYF and ready for pickup on game day, February 1st.

WARNING OF AN IMPORTANT MEETING OF THE CONGREGATION to be held Sunday, January 25, 2009, after worship to **vote on the 2009 Operating Budget** proposed by the Board of Trustees.

WORKSHOP LEADER is needed for Games and Movement. Share Bible stories and then act out the stories or play games connected to the story. Teach the same lesson to different classes each week. Also, a third **TEACHER** would be a great help in this year’s large kindergarten class. See Michele Iannello or Sarah LeGeyt for information or to sign up.

RETREAT COMMITTEE is planning for the All-Church Retreat scheduled for March 20th-22nd. Anyone interested in being on the committee may see Bob Mankowski.

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