

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

January 18, 2009

10:00 AM

CHIMES

Bob Oswald

INTERESTS OF THE FELLOWSHIP

PRELUDE: "Creation Hymn"

-Courtney

CHORAL INTROIT

CALL TO WORSHIP: (**responsively**)

God is calling. Do you not hear?

You are being called by name, for a purpose.

God, you have searched us and know us.

You discern our thoughts from far away.

Do not confuse the siren calls of the world for God's call.

Do not confuse the values of this world for God's values.

You know, O God, when we sit and when we stand.

You know when we lie down and where we go.

Your words and your deeds are known to God.

You were known to God before you were born.

Your knowledge of us is more than we can understand.

Your thoughts embrace us amid all you have created.

*HYMN 5 (*Chalice*)

"O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing"

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

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

We have come together, listening God, because you have spoken your word of summons and welcome. We are drawn irresistibly to the promise of your presence and by the persistence of your call. Speak to your servants here in ways we can understand. We want to hear the message you intend for us. We want to listen, not because someone else needs to have it told to them, but because we ourselves are needy sinners. Your expectations of us are high and holy. We tremble before you, eager for the heavens to be opened in our midst for our transformation. In Jesus' name we pray, and also saying, *Our Father...*

*GLORIA PATRI (*Chalice* # 35)

RESPONSIVE READING **#765** (*Chalice*) Psalm 139

OFFERTORY: "Leaning on the Everlasting Arms"

-Showalter/Robinson

Senior Choir

*DOXOLOGY (*Chalice* # 46)

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

We have heard you calling us, loving God, in the cries of your children – cries for bread, for justice, for relief. We have seen you beckoning to us amid the corporate greed and social distortions of our day. We have felt the pain of sisters and brothers caught up in damaging relationships that violate your holy temple within them. We want to help, and we believe your church can be Christ's healing presence for them. Show us the way to be messengers of your gentle judgment and powerful good news. May our offerings be used for the transformation of church and society, individuals and groups. Amen.

*HYMN 545 (*Chalice*)

"He Leadeth Me: O Blessed Thought"

A MOMENT OF SILENCE FOR PERSONAL REFLECTION

followed by the PASTORAL PRAYER and ORGAN RESPONSE

*HYMN 452 (*Chalice*)

"Here I Am Lord"

SCRIPTURE: 1 Samuel 3:1-20 (Pew Bibles, O.T. p. 242)

SERMON:

"HERE I AM"

*HYMN 357 (*Chalice*)

"We Call Ourselves Disciples"

*BENEDICTION

*RESPONSE

*POSTLUDE: "When in Our Music God Is Glorified"

-McAfee

(*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
Phil Worley	Duty Trustee
Marianne Burbank	Greeter
Larry Minichiello and Jeff Smith	Ushers

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THE FLOWERS today are given by Evans and Evelyn Sealand in loving memory of their parents, Harry and Janet Jackson and Evans and Marion Sealand.

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 18, 2009

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

ORDER JYF SUPERBOWL GRINDERS today and next Sunday, Jan. 25, at the coffee hours. They will be prepared by the JYF and ready for pickup on game day, February 1st.

HELP OUR YOUTH ON AN INTERNATIONAL MISSION PROJECT. They will be selling Mission Shares for \$25 each. Buy a share in celebration, in honor or in memory of a loved one or 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.

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

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.

SILVER LAKE SUMMER CONFERENCE brochures have arrived. There is one posted by the church office in the lower level. You may obtain one in the church office, or you may visit the website www.silverlakect.org for the schedule and to register.

COMING UP

CHURCH OFFICE is closed Monday for Martin Luther King Day.

SENIOR CHOIR: Monday, 7:00 PM.

CHERRY BROOK CHIMES BELL CHOIR: Thursday, 7:00 PM.

WARNING of an important meeting of the congregation to be held **next Sunday, January 25, 2009**, after worship to vote on the 2009 Operating Budget proposed by the Board of Trustees.

CONFIRMATION CLASS: Next Sunday, Noon-1:30 PM. Please bring a bag lunch.

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.