

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

April 26, 2009

10:00 AM

CHIMES

Lydia Petersen

INTERESTS OF THE FELLOWSHIP

PRELUDE: "This Is the Day the Lord Hath Made"

CALL TO WORSHIP: (**responsively**)

God has set apart those who are faithful.

Our Creator will hear us when we call.

God puts gladness in our hearts and minds.

We will lie down in safety and sleep in peace.

Beloved, we are God's children now.

What we will be has not yet been revealed.

We are here to remember Jesus Christ.

We want to be like the One who lived by love.

Our faith strengthens us for each day's living.

God empowers our ministries of caring.

We trust God whose children we are.

We look forward to what God will reveal to us.

*HYMN **38** (*Pilgrim*)

"Morning Has Broken"

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

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

God of our ancestors, author of life, source of Easter good news, we are drawn together again by the mystery of life and death. We call on you, so far beyond our knowing, with a mixture of faith and doubt. Let your face shine on us as we put our trust in you. Draw together the fragments of our busy lives around the central core of love which you provide, that we might relate to one another as whole people. Grant us a fuller sense of what is right and good. And help us to live at our best. In Jesus' name we pray, and also saying, *Our Father...*

*GLORIA PATRI (*Pilgrim # 513*)

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM:

(No photography, please)

MINISTER: Fellow members of this household of faith, I commend to your love this child whom we now receive as a member of the family of God. Will you endeavor to live so that she may grow in the knowledge and love of God, and of our Savior Jesus Christ? Will you support her parents in their efforts to guide their child in the way of the gospel, and to faithful service in Christ's church?

CONGREGATION: **We will endeavor to do so, and we promise our support.**

HYMN **277** (*Pilgrim*) (**seated**) "Jesus, Friend, So Kind and Gentle"
The church school children may pass to their classrooms when the congregation begins singing.

OFFERTORY: "El Shaddai"

-M. Card

*DOXOLOGY (*Pilgrim # 515*)

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

We give with joy, gracious God, for you have been with us even when we were unfaithful. You have kept us in safety through times of grave distress. We can call on you in all times and places, in life and in death, knowing that your strength is available to sustain us. We give now that your church may be empowered in the proclamation of good news and the transformation of human life. Amen.

*HYMN (*see insert*)

"The Lord's My Shepherd"

A MOMENT OF SILENCE FOR PERSONAL REFLECTION

followed by the PASTORAL PRAYER and ORGAN RESPONSE

*HYMN (*see insert*)

"Blessed Be God"

SCRIPTURE: Luke 24:36-48 (Pew Bibles, N.T. p. 84)

SERMON: "INSIDE THE STORY"

*HYMN **371** (*Chalice*) "Wade in the Water"

*BENEDICTION and *RESPONSE

*POSTLUDE

(*All who are able, please stand)

The Rev. Susan M. Prichard	Interim Minister
Sarah W. LeGeyt	Director of Christian Education & Youth
Mary Lou Keefe	Director of Music
Bob Oswald	Organist
Geri Bunnell and Curt Johnson	Duty Deacons
Rick Hill	Duty Trustee
Muriel LeGeyt and Cora Mutch	Greeters
Mary Lee Dunn and Hillary Dunn	Ushers
The Baughers	Coffee Hour Hosts

THE FLOWERS today are given by Michael and Linda Scarchuk in memory of Linda's mother, Betty Coleman, and in celebration of their 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.

MUSICIANS taking part in today's service are: Bob Oswald, organ and keyboard player; Judy Robinson, vocals; Jerry Alonzy, vocals; Randy Doyle, bass guitar; Jim Koplak, guitar; Ally Getchell, guitar; and Paul Richter, percussion.

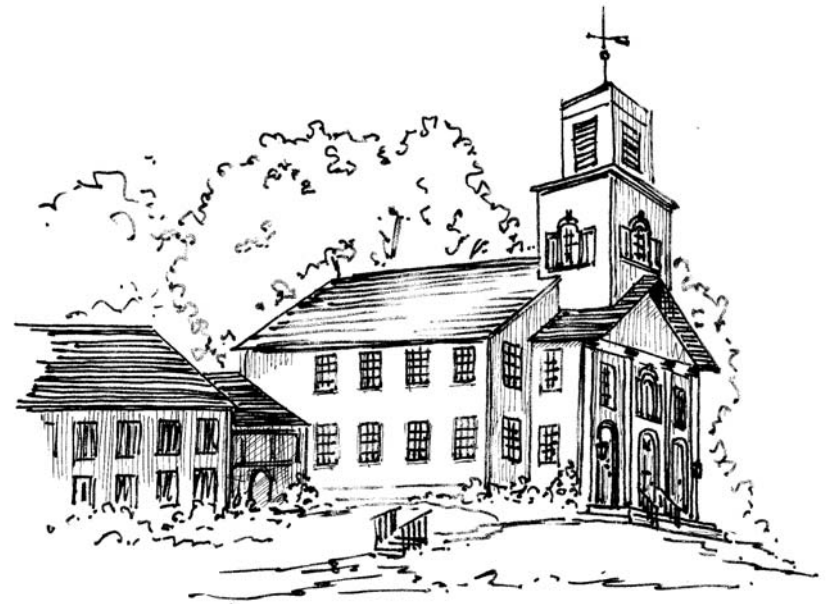
NURSERY CARE is available in the lower level of the Parish House for infants through 2 years old.

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 for a time of refreshment and fellowship in the Parish Hall following worship today.

Please see bulletin insert for announcements

The First Congregational Church
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ANNOUNCEMENTS – SUNDAY, APRIL 26, 2009

CHERUB CHOIR begins rehearsals today for Christian Education Sunday at 11:15 in the Music Room. Children age 4 –Gr. 2.

JUNIOR CHOIR will **NOT** rehearse today.

JYF will be playing mini-golf today after church.

CONFIRMATION CLASS: Today, 11:45 AM – 1:15 PM.

SYF will be hiking today, leaving at 1:30 PM, for Sessions Woods.

OUR MISSION COLLECTION for May will be for “Dress for Success.” It helps women prepare for that first time job interview. Needed are cleaned professional women’s suits and dresses.

TALENT SHOW/LUNCHEON TICKETS (for the May 3rd event) will be available during coffee hour today.

NUTMEG SYMPHONY’S Celebrity Maestros Gala is **TODAY** at the Farmington Country Club. Two members of our church, Scot Haney and Guy Gilchrist, are among the guest conductors. Concert-only tickets are \$40 for church members/friends for the 2:45 PM concert. Contact Peg Colavecchio’s cell 836-9754.

COMING UP

SENIOR CHOIR: Monday, 7:00 PM.

SEARCH COMMITTEE: Tuesday, 7 PM. & next Sunday, 8 AM.

BELL CHOIR: Thursday, 7:00 PM.

TALENT SHOW DRESS REHEARSAL: Sat., May 2, 9 – 10:30 AM.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION COMMITTEE: Next Sunday, 8:30 AM.

TALENT SHOW AND LUNCHEON: Next Sunday, after church. Purchase your tickets today at coffee hour.

THE CHERRY BROOK CHIMES, will be participating in the annual **MINI BELL FEST** which takes place this year at the Avon Congregational Church, next Sunday, 4:00 PM. Five Farmington Valley area choirs will perform massed and solo ringing. The concert is free and open to the public with refreshments to follow.