

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

May 3, 2009

10:00 AM

CHIMES

Bob Oswald

INTERESTS OF THE FELLOWSHIP

PRELUDE: "Children of the Heavenly Father"

-Hustad

CHORAL INTROIT

CALL TO WORSHIP: (**responsively**)

The Good Shepherd invites us to green pastures.  
We are refreshed beside still waters.

**We have been given everything we have.**

**God offers us everything we need.**

When we walk through shadowed valleys, God is with us.  
We are comforted and reassured.

**God leads us in the right paths.**

**Our cups are filled to overflowing.**

God welcomes us to the table where love is expressed.  
We are invited to partake of the truth God offers.

**We have received plenty that we might share.**

**We are called to be God's helpers.**

\*HYMN **78** (*Chalice*)

"The Lord's My Shepherd"

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

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

**Good shepherd, we meet in your name, confident that we are known and loved by you. Here we draw close to one another and to you, expecting to be empowered by fresh insights to live as your people. We want to care for one another in life-giving ways. We seek to reach out to those who deny you or suspect us. Help us grow in love that is genuine in its caring and self-sacrifice. We embrace the wholeness you offer and dare to risk acceptance of a healing role for ourselves and this faith community. Equip us for service beyond this hour of meeting. In Jesus' name we pray, and also saying, *Our Father...***

\*GLORIA PATRI (*Chalice* # 35)

OFFERTORY: "Spirit Wind"

-Bartsch

Cherry Brook Chimes Bell Choir

\*DOXOLOGY (*Chalice* # 46)

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

**How can we express our thanks, O God, for the one who laid down life itself in witness to your love for all people? We are aware that many have not experienced that love. We see their need, and we want to respond. Use what we offer to you to bring healing and peace to others not of this fold. Draw us together as one flock in the care of one shepherd, Jesus Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen.**

ANTHEM: "Here, O My Lord"

-Paxton

Senior Choir

A MOMENT OF SILENCE FOR PERSONAL REFLECTION

followed by the PASTORAL PRAYER and ORGAN RESPONSE

\*HYMN **558** (*Chalice*)

"Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us"

SCRIPTURE: John 10:11-18 (Pew Bibles, N.T. p. 96)

SERMON:

"SHEEP AIN'T CHEAP"

\*COMMUNION HYMN **386** (*Chalice*) "We Come as Guests Invited"

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 **453** (*Chalice*)

"Called as Partners in Christ's Service"

\*BENEDICTION and \*RESPONSE

\*POSTLUDE: "Come, Christians, Join to Sing"

-arr. Hustad

(\*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
Cindy Griggs and Dan LeGeyt	Duty Deacons
Linda Lareau	Duty Trustee
Ruth Morholt and Jane Seccombe	Greeters
Bob Oswald and April Oswald	Ushers
C.E. Committee	Coffee Hour Hosts

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

**THE FLOWERS** today are given in memory of Roscoe and Louise Bristol by the 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** for a time of refreshment and fellowship in the Parish Hall following worship today.

Please see bulletin insert for announcements



184 Cherry Brook Road – PO Box 133  
 Canton Center CT 06020-0133  
 Church Office 860-693-4581 Fax 860-693-4216  
 E-mail [office@cantoncenterchurch.org](mailto:office@cantoncenterchurch.org)  
[www.cantoncenterchurch.org](http://www.cantoncenterchurch.org)

## ANNOUNCEMENTS – SUNDAY, May 3, 2009

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

**JUNIOR CHOIR:** Today, 11:30 AM in the Music Room.

**TALENT SHOW AND LUNCHEON:** Today after church.

**THE CHERRY BROOK CHIMES,** will be participating in the annual **MINI BELL FEST** which takes place this year at the Avon Congregational Church (Route 44), **TODAY** at 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.

### COMING UP

**DON'T FORGET TO R.S.V.P.** to the SYF Spaghetti Dinner for Mission Trip shareholders coming up this is **Saturday, May 9,** at 6:00 PM. Please call the church office 693-4581.

**SENIOR CHOIR:** Monday, 7:00 PM.

**CHRISTIAN EDUCATION COMMITTEE:** Monday, 7:30 PM. Please note change in time.

**HONOR COURT** will be hosted Monday evening in Hartford by our church.

**COMPLETED PASTORAL SEARCH QUESTIONNAIRES** are due back at the Church Office this **Tuesday, May 5<sup>th</sup>**. If you haven't finished yours yet, please do it now. Your input is needed for the Pastoral Search. Thanks!

**DIACONATE:** Tuesday, 7:00 PM.

**BELL CHOIR:** Thursday, 7:00 PM.

**142<sup>nd</sup> ANNUAL MEETING OF THE CONNECTICUT CONFERENCE UCC – PART I,** is **Saturday, May 9,** at Asylum Hill Congregational Church, 814 Asylum Avenue, Hartford. The topic is "Body and Soul – The Church and Health Care." Keynote speaker is the President of the Universal Health Care Foundation of Connecticut. There will be workshops on related topics. Besides our delegates, other members of our church are welcome to attend and can register at [www.ctucc.org](http://www.ctucc.org) or phone 233-5564.

## Announcements, Sunday, May 3, 2009, continued

**MISSIONS COMMITTEE:** Next Sunday, 9:00 AM.

**FLOWER AND BAKE SALE** will be held next **Sunday, May 10,** after worship at the coffee hour. Buy your Mom a flower and attach a special message. Buy some goodies to share with your Mom. Proceeds will benefit the SYF Summer Mission Trip to help the homeless on Staten Island, NY, from July 6-10.

**PRIME TIMERS** meet on **Wednesday, May 13,** at noon in the church's Parish Hall for lunch and a program. The program will be presented by Arlene Shea on "Antiques Appraisals." Please bring 2-3 antiques to be appraised. She specializes in early American china, art glass, bric-a-brac, ephemera, post cards, Sterling, napkin rings. Please bring your lunch; dessert and beverage will be provided.

**WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP COMMITTEE** is looking for the input of any and all the women from our church. We want to make this a committee that will meet the needs of our churchwomen and cultivate the spirit of Christ and spiritual growth through worship, stewardship, education, and service. We will hold an information gathering session on **Sunday, May 17<sup>th</sup>** after church. The meeting will be held downstairs in the Corner Room at 11:30 AM. We will discuss some preliminary ideas for the committee and its activities. Please contact Ana Chambers for additional information or if you have any questions (693-1493; [laatka@comcast.net](mailto:laatka@comcast.net)).

**WORK DAY AT THE CHURCH,** sponsored by the Board of Trustees, will be **Sunday, May 17,** 12 – 2 P.M. for spring clean-up. Come, pitch in and enjoy pizza lunch.

**SEARCHING FOR A JOB?** Consider joining the Farmington Valley Reemployment Group (FVRG). It's free and meets Wednesdays from 7 to 9 PM at St. Anne's Church in Avon. The group's objective is, "to help members develop their job-search and networking skills in a supportive environment." The group is led by several facilitators, who are job-search-savvy." I find it helpful. If you're interested in finding out more, contact Joan Colglazier, at 409-9182 or [j.colglazier@sbcglobal.net](mailto:j.colglazier@sbcglobal.net).