



The newsletter of The First Congregational Church
Canton Center, Connecticut

The CHURCHMOUSE

March 2007

FROM THE PASTOR

General Synod XXVI

General Synod of our United Church of Christ is the every-other-year meeting of our national church, when delegates and visitors from UCC conferences from across the country gather for worship and discernment and taking up the work of the church, much like we do at our Connecticut Conference annual meetings but on a much larger scale. For the first time our Connecticut Conference will be hosting General Synod; one that promises to be “like no other” with many special events to celebrate the 50th Anniversary of our United Church of Christ. It all begins on Friday afternoon, June 22, at the Hartford Civic Center and continues until Tuesday evening, June 26.

Edith Guffey (Associate General Minister, UCC) wrote in the last issue of “United Church News” (February/March): “This is an important time in the life of our denomination, not only because it’s the 50th Anniversary. It’s also important to continually explore how we as the United Church of Christ are responding to the call to be the church in an increasingly complex world.”

Rev. Guffey also announced: “In addition to the usual business, worship, and workshops, Friday, Saturday, and Sunday have been set aside primarily as 50th Anniversary celebration days. On Saturday, an event we are calling ‘Synod in the City,’ will afford all visitors and delegates the opportunity to hear a wide range of speakers, lectures, Bible Study leaders, and musical and theatre presentations, in both large and small group settings. There will also be an all-day festival in Bushnell Park, and on Sunday afternoon we will all gather together in the Civic Center for a Service of Word and Sacrament (the only event that will be open to everyone who would like to attend, that will not require advance or onsite registration).”



Volunteers from all our Connecticut UCC congregations are still needed in three general areas: Operations, Hospitality, and Environment/Worship. In addition, Bev Sealand and Susan Turner will be telling us about a Conference-wide plea for so many dozens of cookies. Choir members are also asked to consider being part of the Celebration Choir that will sing for worship on Sunday evening, June 24, before an expected congregation of 5,000. To learn more about Synod and the various opportunities, you may go to www.ctucc.org/synod2007. Also, Joan Colglazier, our church’s Vice President, will be keeping us posted on synod happenings and on the need for volunteers in different areas.

General Synod registration, required for all visitors, is now being accepted online at www.ucc.org/synod.

Larry W. Smith

CALENDAR OF CHURCH EVENTS

- Mar. 1 Thursday, 6:00 – 9:30 P.M. **Women’s Fellowship** Event taking up the “Joy of Stress” in the Parish Hall.
Thursday, 7:00 P.M. Bell Choir.
- Mar. 4 Sunday, 8:30 A.M. **Teachers’ Meeting** (with communion).
Sunday, 10:00 A.M. Worship and Church School (being in class).
Sunday, 11:15 A.M. **Cherub Choir** in the Music Room.
Sunday, 11:15 A.M. **Retreat Meeting** for attendees in the sanctuary.
- Mar. 5 Monday, Junior (6:30) and Senior (7:30) Choirs.
Monday, 7:00 P.M. **Christian Education Committee**.
Monday, **Honor Court** is hosted by our church in Hartford. Donations of sandwiches, cookies and fruit may be left at the church.
- Mar. 6 Tuesday, 10:30 A.M. **Adult Study**.
Tuesday, 7:30 P.M. **Diaconate**.
- Mar. 8 Thursday, 7:00 P.M. Bell Choir.
- Mar. 9-11 Friday-Sunday, **All-Church Retreat** at Silver Lake.
- Mar. 11 Sunday, **Daylight Savings Time begins – Spring ahead one hour!**
Sunday, 9:00 A.M. **Missionary & Stewardship Committee**.
Sunday, 10:00 A.M. Worship and Church School (*begin in church*).
Sunday, 11:15 A.M. **Cherub Choir**.
Sunday, 5:30 P.M. **SYF Meeting** at the Island.
- Mar. 12 Monday, 10:00 A.M. **Prayer Shawl Ministry**.
Monday, 6:30 P.M. **Board of Trustees**.
Monday, Junior (6:30) and Senior (7:30) Choirs.
Monday, 7:10 P.M. **Music Committee**.
- Mar. 13 Tuesday, 10:30 A.M. and 7:00 P.M. **Adult Study**.
- Mar. 14 Wednesday, Noon, **Prime Timers** meet in the Parish Hall for potluck and program.
Wednesday, 7:00-8:15 P.M. **Confirmation Class**.
Wednesday, 7:30 P.M. **Church Council**.
- Mar. 15 Thursday, 7:00 P.M. Bell Choir.
- Mar. 18 Sunday, 10:00 A.M. Worship and Church School (begin in class).
Sunday, 11:15 A.M. **Cherub Choir**.
Sunday, 11:30 A.M. **Lenten Potluck and Workshop**.
- Mar. 19 Monday, Junior (6:30) and Senior (7:30) Choirs.
- Mar. 20 Tuesday, 10:30 A.M. and 7:00 P.M. **Adult Study**.
- Mar. 22 Thursday, 7:00 P.M. Bell Choir.
- Mar. 24 Saturday, 9:00 A.M. **Women’s Fellowship** meets at church to car pool to Sugar Loaf crafts fair at Expo Center, Hartford.
- Mar. 25 Sunday, 10:00 A.M. Worship and Church School (*begin in church*).
Sunday, 11:15 A.M. **Cherub Choir**.
Sunday, 5:30 – 7:00 P.M. SYF Meeting at the Island.
- Mar. 26 Monday, Junior (6:30) and Senior (7:30) Choirs.
- Mar. 27 Tuesday, 10:30 A.M. and 7:00 P.M. **Adult Study**.
Tuesday, 7:00 P.M. **Core Resettlement Committee**.
- Mar. 28 Wednesday. 7:00 – 8:15 P.M. **Confirmation Class**.
- Mar. 29 Thursday, 7:00 P.M. Bell Choir.
- Mar. 30-31 Friday, 6:00 P.M. - Saturday, **SYF Work Weekend** at Silver Lake.

March 2007						
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HOLY WEEK



LOOKING AHEAD TO HOLY WEEK:

- **Palm Sunday** Worship (beginning with children’s Palm Processional), April 1, 10 A.M.
- **Maundy Thursday** Service, April 5, 7:30 P.M.
- **Easter Sunday** Worship, April 8, 9:00 A.M. and 10:30 A.M. Church School classes do NOT meet.