



The newsletter of The First Congregational Church
Canton Center, Connecticut

The CHURCHMOUSE

September 2007

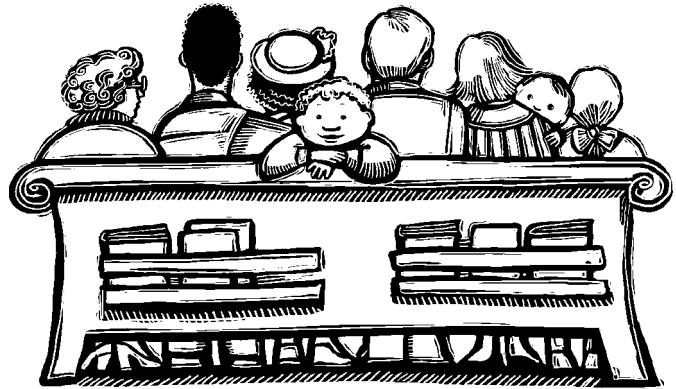
FROM THE PASTOR

Some of you will recall that in my sermon on the Sunday of the Memorial Day weekend, I spoke of our conviction in our Lord who gives shelter to our loved ones who have fallen in a kingdom that cannot be shaken, and how many others have echoed that same trust in God beyond whose love and care we cannot drift. I then pointed out how Winston Churchill affirmed the same, as reflected in the instructions he left behind for his own funeral service.

Mr. Churchill selected the liturgy and the great hymns of the Anglican Church (Church of England). He also specified that a trumpet player be stationed in the dome of St. Paul's Cathedral from where he would play **Taps**, the traditional tune that announces the end of the day.

During the service, just as *Taps* was finished, another trumpeter stationed on the other side of the dome responded dramatically with the notes of **Reveille** – the call to get up. It's time to get up.

In this way, Churchill created a beautiful image reminding us that by the grace of God – proclaimed in the resurrection of Christ – the last notes will not be *Taps* but rather the call of *Reveille* – the call to a new beginning.



Just as Memorial Day weekend marks the early beginning of the summer season, so the Labor Day weekend is associated with the end of the summer season. Many of us will bemoan its passing and wonder how it came and went so quickly. But the passage of time and the grace of God always assures for a new beginning. Oh, let us be thankful for the blessings of summer. But now let us be expectant and hopeful for the days of September ... for new opportunities, challenges, and adventures that lie ahead. Let us hear the notes of *Reveille* – the call to get up. It's time to get up and go forward into God's new day and begin a new church season here at Canton Center. Looking forward to seeing all of you.

Blest be the tie that binds!

Larry W. Smith



September 2 – First Sunday back at Canton Center ... service at 10:00 with communion

September 9 – “**Rally Sunday**” and **All-Church Picnic** ... Church school begins

CALENDAR OF CHURCH EVENTS

- Aug. 27 Monday, 7:00 P.M. **Christian Education Committee.**
- Sept. 2 Sunday, 10:00 A.M. **Regular worship resumes** at Canton Center. Nursery care is provided. Church School classes will **not** meet.
- Sept. 3 Monday, Church Office is closed for **Labor Day.**
- Sept. 4 Tuesday, 7:00 P.M. **Teacher Orientation.**
 Tuesday, 7:30 P.M. **Diaconate.**
 Tuesday, **Honor Court** is hosted by our church in Hartford.
- Sept. 6 Thursday, 6:45 P.M. **Bell Choir** begins.
- Sept. 9 Sunday, 9:00 A.M. **SYF** set up for all-church picnic.
 Sunday, 9:00 A.M. **Missions Committee.**
 Sunday, 9:15- 9:45 A.M. **Church School Registration.**
 Sunday, 10:00 A.M. Worship and Church School (*begin in church*)
 Sunday, after worship, **All-Church Rally Day Picnic.**
- Sept. 10 Monday, 10:00 A.M. **Prayer Shawl Ministry** Group.
 Monday, 6:30 P.M. **Board of Trustees.**
 Monday, 7:10 P.M. **Music Committee.**
 Monday, 7:30 P.M. **Senior Choir** begins.
- Sept. 11 Tuesday, 2:00 P.M. F.V. Assoc. **Committee on the Ministry.**
- Sept. 13 Wednesday, 10:15 A.M. **Prime Timers** meet for at church for a trip to Sessions Woods, Burlington, CT.
 Wednesday, 7:00 P.M. **Church Council.**
- Sept. 13 Thursday, 7:00 P.M. **Bell Choir.**
- Sept. 16 Sunday, 10:00 A.M. Worship and Church School (begin in class).
 Sunday, 11:15 A.M. **Confirmation Class (and parents) meeting.**
 Sunday, **Deadline** for submitting items to the church office for the October issue of *The Churchmouse*.
 Sunday, 11:30 – 1:00 P.M. **JYF Kick-Off Ice Cream Social.**
- Sept. 17 Monday, 6:30 P.M. **Junior Choir** begins.
 Monday, 7:30 P.M. **Senior Choir.**
- Sept. 20 Thursday, 7:00 P.M. **Bell Choir.**
- Sept. 23 Sunday, 10:00 A.M. Worship and Church School (*begin in church*).
- Sept. 24 Monday, 6:30 P.M. **Junior Choir.**
 Monday, 7:30 P.M. **Senior Choir.**
- Sept. 26 Wednesday, 7:00-8:15 P.M. **Confirmation Class.**
- Sept. 27 Thursday, 7:00 P.M. **Bell Choir.**
- Sept. 30 Sunday, 10:00 A.M. Worship and Church School (begin in class).
 Sunday, 1:00 P.M. **CROP Walk**, beginning at the Canton Town Green.
 Sunday, 3:00 P.M. **Ordination** Service for Chris Mereschuk, followed by reception in the Parish Hall.

September 2007						
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MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 6, CHICKEN PIE SUPPER AND HARVEST FAIR!!