



The newsletter of The First Congregational Church
Canton Center, Connecticut

The CHURCHMOUSE

May 2008

FROM THE PASTOR

WELL DONE!

The economy was actually doing quite well when our church made its decision last year to undertake a capital fund campaign. But when we had our kick-off Sunday on March 30th of this year, the economic climate had changed for the worse and our campaign goal of \$650,000 seemed much more daunting. On that Sunday, I preached from some biblical texts that spoke to us about faith, courage, fortitude, and the miracle of sharing. I ended my sermon with a prayer that God would give to each of us in all our times of challenge, including the present one facing us as members of this church family ... give to each of us of his spirit ... give us the vision and the will, the fortitude and the generosity of heart to do what we need to do and can do. With God's help and through all the remarkable and faithful and generous efforts of all of you - that prayer was answered. This has been an amazing campaign. We are well on our way to reaching our dollar goal. But even more exciting has been the spirit of energy, enthusiasm, and good fellowship that has been generated among the members of our church family. Thanks be to God! And thanks be to all of you!

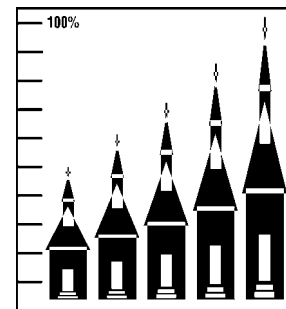
We were also very much aided in this campaign by the experience and expertise of our consultant, Maryann Doyle. What follows is her final campaign report. Let me also say that I join with her and I am sure all of us in especially thanking the members of our steering committee that was headed up by our Campaign Chairman, Jim Magennis.

Larry W. Smith

Preserving the Past, Preparing for the Future

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN REPORT

As of Sunday, April 20th, \$ 561,000 is pledged toward the \$ 650,000 capital campaign goal, with additional calls yet to be made.



CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

We are extremely grateful to the campaign steering committee, led by Chairman **Jim Magennis**, which includes **Phil Doyle, Mary Lee Dunn, Beth Lingenheld, Kristin Oswald, Harriet Vose, Jane Watson and Phil Worley**. The steering committee gives thanks to church members who filled 82 volunteer positions, especially the 44 people who volunteered to visit every household on behalf of the church. These visits have provided members with a time to make new friends and strengthen longtime friendships. Parishioners are responding enthusiastically to the opportunity to discuss our mission and invite others to enter more fully into the life of the church.

A committee will be appointed to follow up with outstanding donors and to collect pledges over the next three years. Donors can begin pledge payments immediately and are

-continued next page

encouraged to take advantage of the tax year end in making payments on pledges. All donations will be acknowledged in yearend statements.

Here are guidelines to be sure that your payment is credited properly:

- Please make checks out to the First Congregational Church, Canton Center, with the notation “capital campaign.”
- Securities can be transferred to the church’s account #**300-434-33** at RBC Wealth Management, 20 Church Street, Suite 2300, PO Box 1900, Hartford CT 06144-1900. The DTC number for RBC Wealth Management is #**300-434-33**. Questions can be directed to the church’s representative at RBC Wealth Management, Randall Peteros, who can be reached at 241-8600. Please send a copy of correspondence about your transfer to Jane Watson, the church secretary, so that your pledge is properly credited.
- Separate weekly envelopes are available, dated beginning the first Sunday in May.
- If you wish to pay your pledge using a credit card, contact Jane Watson in the church office at 693-4581.

Our campaign is an historic undertaking that will benefit and enhance the future of The First Congregational Church, Canton Center. We thank God for the gifts He has given us so that we may continue His work in this place. We are proud of the work we have accomplished through this campaign. Any questions concerning the campaign, or pledging, can be directed to Jim Magennis.

CALENDAR OF CHURCH EVENTS

- May 1 Thursday, 7:00 P.M. **Bell Choir.**
- May 3 Saturday, 9:00 A.M. Church School **Talent Show Rehearsal.**
- May 4 Sunday, 8:30 A.M. **Teachers’ Meeting.**
 Sunday, 9:30-10:00 and 11:00-11:30 A.M. **SYF Bagel Sale** in the Parish Hall.
 Sunday, 10:00 A.M. **Worship and Church School** (begin in class).
 Sunday, 11:30 A.M. Church School **Talent Show and Luncheon.**
 Sunday, 11:15 A.M. **Cherub Choir;** 11:30 A.M. **Junior Choir.**
 Sunday, 11:15 A.M. C.E. Sunday Instrumental **Ensemble rehearsal.**
 Sunday, 4:00 P.M. **Bell Festival** Concert of combined bell choirs from the area (including our own Cherry Brook Chimes) at First Church of Christ, Simsbury.
- May 5 Monday, 6:40 P.M. **Music Committee.**
 Monday, 7:00 P.M. **Senior Choir.**
 Monday, **Honor Court** will be hosted by our church in Hartford.
 Monday, 7:00 P.M. **Christian Education Committee.**
- May 6 Tuesday, 7:00 P.M. **Diaconate.**
- May 7 Wednesday, 7:00-8:00 P.M. **Confirmation Class.**
- May 8 Thursday, 7:00 P.M. **Bell Choir.**
- May 10 Saturday, **Annual Meeting of the CTUCC**, Part I, Middletown.
- May 11 Sunday, 9:30-10:00 and 11:00-11:30 A.M.
SYF Bagel Sale in the Parish Hall.
 Sunday, 10:00 A.M. **Worship; Church School** (*begin in church*).
 Sunday, 11:15 A.M. **Cherub Choir;** 11:30 A.M. **Junior Choir.**
 Sunday, 11:15 A.M. C.E. Sunday Instrumental **Ensemble rehearsal.**
- May 12 Monday, 10:00 A.M. **Prayer Shawl Ministry.**
 Monday, 6:30 P.M. **Board of Trustees.**
- May 13 Tuesday, 7:00 P.M. **Missions Committee.**
 Tuesday, 7:00 P.M. **Senior Choir.** (*Note change* in day for this week.)
- May 14 Wednesday, **Prime Timers** will travel to the Old State House by bus.
 Wednesday, 7:00 P.M. **Church Council.**
- May 15 Thursday, 7:00 P.M. **Bell Choir.**
- May 18 Sunday, 8:30 A.M. **Teacher Appreciation Breakfast.**
 Sunday, 9:30-10:00 and 11:00-11:30 A.M. **SYF Bagel Sale** in the Parish Hall.
 Sunday, 10:00 A.M. **Worship and Church School** (*begin in church*).
 Sunday, **Deadline** for submitting items for the June issue of *The Churchmouse*.
 Sunday, 11:15 A.M. **Cherub Choir;** 11:30 A.M. **Junior Choir.**

May 2008						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

		Sunday, 11:15 A.M. C.E. Sunday Instrumental Ensemble rehearsal.
		Sunday, 11:30 A.M. JYF Hike to Heublein Tower.
		Sunday, Noon, Trustees' Work Day at church with pizza lunch served.
May	19	Monday, 7:00 P.M. Senior Choir.
May	21	Wednesday, 7:00 P.M. Spring Meeting of the Farmington Valley Association.
May	22	Thursday, 7:00 P.M. Bell Choir.
May	25	Sunday, 9:30-10:00 and 11:00-11:30 A.M. SYF Bagel Sale in the Parish Hall.
		Sunday, 10:00 A.M. Worship and Church School (begin in class).
		Sunday, 11:15 A.M. Cherub Choir ; 11:30 A.M. Junior Choir.
		Sunday, 11:15 A.M. C.E. Sunday Instrumental Ensemble rehearsal.
May	26	Monday, 7:00 P.M. Senior Choir.
May	29	Thursday, 7:00 P.M. Bell Choir.