



The newsletter of The First Congregational Church
Canton Center, Connecticut

The CHURCHMOUSE

July/August 2008

FROM THE PASTOR

MOVING ON

Dear Friends,

In the May issue of *The Churchmouse*, I shared some of my thoughts on our recent capital fund campaign, stating among other things: "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." I could not have felt more pleased about the manner in which our campaign was conducted and the results. It speaks well to the strength and vitality of our church family that Laurie and I and our sons have been fortunate to be a part of for twelve meaningful and fruitful years.

Contemplating the possibility of making a move has always been a topic that has filled me with apprehension, but Laurie and I have also appreciated the benefits that change has provided for us and our previous congregations. On Sunday, June 22, I was offered and accepted the position of Pastor of The Congregational Church of Hollis, New Hampshire. My resignation as your pastor will be effective September 15, 2008. Adhering to that date, September 14, will be my final Sunday to lead worship in Canton Center. Between now and then, the church council will be appointing a search committee to secure the services of an interim pastor and eventually appointing a search committee to select a candidate to be the church's new settled pastor.



As I wrote to Joan Colglazier, church president, in my formal letter of resignation: "It is with great affection for the members of our Canton Center church family and with much appreciation for the many ways in which my family and I have known their kindness, friendship, and support, that I do this. It has always been my goal to serve the church faithfully and well. My tenure as the church's pastor has, indeed, been a special honor for me."

Yours in Christian love and fellowship,

Reverend Larry William Smith

NEW WORSHIP TIME JULY/AUGUST: 9:30 A.M.

CALENDAR OF CHURCH EVENTS

- July 4 Friday, the church office will be closed for the **Independence Day** holiday.
 July 6 Sunday, **9:30 AM, Ecumenical Worship and "Summer Sundays" program for children at Canton Center.**
 July 7 Monday, **Honor Court**, hosted by our church in Hartford.
 July 9 Wednesday, 7:00 PM, **Church Council.**
 July 13 Sunday, **9:30 AM, Ecumenical Worship and "Summer Sundays" program for children at Canton Center.**
 July 14 Monday, 10:00 AM, **Prayer Shawl Ministry.**
 July 19 Saturday, 8 – 10 PM, **Pool Party at Mills Pond.**
 July 20 Sunday, **9:30 AM, Ecumenical Worship and "Summer Sundays" program for children at Canton Center.**
 July 27 Sunday, **9:30 AM, Ecumenical Worship and "Summer Sundays" program for children at Canton Center.**
 Aug. 3 Sunday, **9:30 AM, Ecumenical Worship at Canton Baptist Church**, 125 Dowd Avenue.
 Aug. 4 Monday, **Honor Court**, hosted by our church in Hartford.
 Aug. 10 Sunday, **9:30 AM, Ecumenical Worship at Canton Baptist Church**, 125 Dowd Avenue.
 Aug. 11 Monday, 10:00 AM, **Prayer Shawl Ministry.**
 Aug. 17 Sunday, **9:30 AM, Ecumenical Worship at Canton Baptist**, 125 Dowd Avenue. Sunday, **Deadline** for submitting items for the September issue of **The Churchmouse.**
 Aug. 24 Sunday, **9:30 AM. Ecumenical Worship at Canton Baptist**, 125 Dowd Avenue.
 Aug. 25 Monday, 7:00 PM **Senior Choir** begins rehearsals.
 Monday, 7:00 PM **Christian Education Committee.**
 Aug. 31 Sunday, **9:30 AM, Ecumenical Worship at Canton Baptist**, 125 Dowd Avenue.
 Sept. 7 Sunday, **10:00 A.M. Regular Worship resumes** at Canton Center. Church School classes resume Sunday, Sept. 14.

July 2008						
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August 2008						
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