



The newsletter of The First Congregational Church
Canton Center, Connecticut

The CHURCHMOUSE

November 2008

FROM THE INTERIM MINISTER

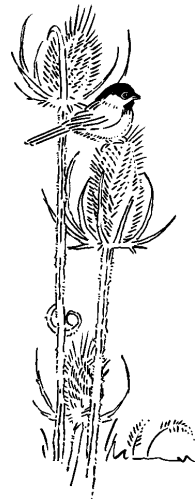
Dear Friends,

It's hard to believe that a month has already gone by. There's been a lot going on here at the church. The Church Fair and Chicken Pie Supper were great. I've met with most boards and committees, and had lunch with the Prime Timers. Confirmation class is up and running. Bible Study will start this week. I've been to Farmington Valley Association events, the Conference Annual Meeting in Bridgeport, and had lunch with the other clergy in Canton.

As long as the good weather holds, I plan to continue my attempts to get out and meet as many of you as I can. Putting names and faces are important to me, as well as getting to know you as individuals. Some folks are more receptive to visits than others, so don't hesitate to call me if you'd like to me call.

A lot goes on during the interim time that might not be visible or apparent. In addition to all the 'normal' jobs of ministry, Interim Ministers are supposed to help move the church through what is referred to as the Five Developmental Tasks. These tasks were developed by the Alban Institute in Washington D.C. to help congregations get ready for new pastoral leadership. They are:

1. Coming to Terms with history
2. Discovering a New Identity
3. Leadership Changes during an Interim
4. Renewing Denominational linkages
5. Preparing for a new ministry.



Over the next few months I will be explaining what is involved in each of these tasks and how they apply to what's going on here in Canton Center.

I continue to look forward to our faith journey together.

Keep the faith,

Sue

P. S. During colonial times (and maybe even more recently), each November, the Congregational pastors of Connecticut would climb into their pulpits and remind their congregants that they had a duty to vote in the elections. In fact, most pastors would probably even tell you who to vote for. As people of faith, we do have a responsibility to have our voice count in the governance of our community, state and nation. Please vote.

P.P.S. Just a reminder that I will be leading a Holy Land pilgrimage in February 2009. If you might be interested in going, registrations have to be made by November 12th, so talk to me if you are interested.

CALENDAR OF CHURCH EVENTS

- Nov. 1 Saturday, 7:00 P.M. **“A Slice of Broadway”** Choir/Wider Church event.
 Nov. 2 Sunday, **DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME ENDS** (Roll back clocks one hour!)
 Sunday, 8:30 AM **Teachers’ Meeting** (with communion).
 Sunday, 10:00 AM Worship and Church School.
 Sunday, 11:15 AM **Cherub Choir** begins rehearsals in the Music Room.
 Sunday, 11:30 AM **Junior Choir**.
 Sunday, Noon, **Trustees’ Fall Work Day** at the church.
- Nov. 3 Monday, 7:00 PM **Senior Choir**.
 Nov. 4 Tuesday, 10:30 AM – Noon, **Bible Study**.
 Tuesday, 7:00 PM **Diaconate**.
- Nov. 6 Thursday, 7:00 PM Bell Choir.
 Nov. 9 Sunday, 8:45 AM **Christian Education Committee**.
 Sunday, 9:00 AM **Missions Committee**.
 Sunday, 10:00 AM Worship and Church School (*begin in church*).
 Sunday, 11:15 AM **Cherub Choir**; 11:30 AM **Junior Choir**.
 Sunday, 11:30 AM **SYF**, Lunch and a Movie.
- Nov. 10 Monday, 10:00 AM **Prayer Shawl Ministry**.
 Monday, 6:30 PM **Board of Trustees**.
 Monday, 6:40 PM **Music Committee**.
 Monday, 7:00 PM **Senior Choir**.
- Nov. 11 Tuesday, **Veterans Day**, the church office is closed.
 Nov. 12 Wednesday, 12:00 Noon, **Prime Timers** meet in the Parish Hall.
 Wednesday, 7:00 PM, **Church Council**.
- Nov. 13 Thursday, 7:00 PM **Bell Choir**.
 Nov. 16 Sunday, 10:00 PM Worship and Church School.
 Sunday, 11:15 AM **Cherub Choir**; 11:30 AM **Junior Choir**.
 Sunday, Noon, **Confirmation Class** session
 Sunday, 1:00 – 4:00 PM **JYF Food Drive** (Marandino’s)
- Nov. 17 Monday, 7:00 PM **Senior Choir**.
 Nov. 18 Tuesday, 10:30 AM, **Bible Study**.
 Nov. 20 Thursday, 7:00 PM **Bell Choir**.
 Nov. 23 Sunday, 9:45 AM Church School assembles for **“Feather Food” processional**.
 Sunday, 10:00 AM Worship and Church School (*begin in church*).
 Sunday, 11:00 AM **Thanksgiving Potluck**.
 Sunday, Noon, **Confirmation Class**.
 Sunday, 7:00 PM **Ecumenical Thanksgiving Worship** at Collinsville Cong’l.
- Nov. 24 Monday, 7:00 PM **Senior Choir**.
 Nov. 25 Tuesday, 10:30 AM **Bible Study**.
 Nov. 27 Thursday, **HAPPY THANKSGIVING**.
 Nov. 28 Friday, the church office is closed.
 Nov. 30 First Sunday of **Advent**, 10:00 AM Worship and Church School (*begin in church*).
 Sunday, 11:15 AM **Cherub Choir**; 11:30 AM **Junior Choir**.
 Sunday, **SYF** to Trans-Siberian Orchestra Concert.

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