



The newsletter of The First Congregational Church  
Canton Center, Connecticut

## The CHURCHMOUSE

May 2009

### FROM THE INTERIM MINISTER

Dear Friends,

Now that spring has finally arrived we can celebrate in the beauty of this part of our state. Flowers are blooming, leaves are budding and we all have a bit of spring fever (and for some allergies). Nothing is finer than springtime in New England.

While I was driving up to Bangor on Sunday afternoon it was amazing to watch spring de-volve (I'm not sure this is a word). There were fewer flowers and less green the farther north I drove. And, just past Waterville there were actually piles of dirty snow at the edges of parking lots. I was feeling lucky to live in Connecticut.

I had the responsibility for closing worship at the seminary on Tuesday. I had chosen two poems from a favorite little book by Ann Weems called, *Reaching for Rainbows*. You can imagine my surprise when the woman who was leading the opening worship on Monday had also chosen a selection from the very same book. It seems that we were both reflecting on the glories of nature and nature's ability to bring us to faith.

If I could, I'd write for you a rainbow  
And splash it with all the colors of God  
And hang it in the window of your being  
So that each new God's morning  
Your eyes would open first

to Hope and Promise.

If I could, I'd wipe away your tears  
And hold you close forever in shalom.  
But God never promised  
I could write a rainbow,  
Never promised I could suffer for you,  
Only promised I could love you.  
That I do.

(Reaching for Rainbows, 1980)



As we experience the arrival of spring and the resurrection of Jesus, each in our own way, let's hold one another in gratitude and in hope.

Keep the faith,

Sue

## CALENDAR OF CHURCH EVENTS

May	2	Saturday	9:00 AM	Talent Show <b>Dress Rehearsal</b>
May	3	Sunday	8:00 AM	<b>Pastoral Search</b> Committee
		Sunday	8:30 AM	<b>Christian Education</b> Committee
		Sunday	10:00 AM	Worship & Church School (begin in class)
		Sunday	11:15 AM	<b>Cherub</b> Choir ; 11:30 AM, <b>Junior</b> Choir
		Sunday	11:15 AM	<b>Talent Show &amp; Luncheon</b>
May	4	Monday		<b>Honor Court</b> is hosted by our church in Hartford
		Monday	7:00 PM	<b>Senior</b> Choir
May	5	Tuesday	7:00 PM	<b>Diaconate</b>
May	7	Thursday	7:00 PM	<b>Bell</b> Choir
May	9	Saturday	6:00 PM	SYF Mission Trip <b>Spaghetti Dinner</b>
May	10	Sunday	9:00 AM	<b>Missionary &amp; Stewardship</b> Committee
		Sunday	10:00 AM	Worship & Church School (begin in class)
		Sunday	11:00 AM	<b>Pastoral Search</b> at coffee hour
		Sunday	11:15 AM	<b>Cherub</b> Choir; 11:30 AM, <b>Junior</b> Choir
May	11	Monday	10:00 AM	<b>Prayer Shawl Ministry</b>
		Monday	6:30 PM	Board of <b>Trustees</b>
		Monday	6:40 PM	<b>Music</b> Committee
		Monday	7:00 PM	<b>Senior</b> Choir
May	12	Tuesday	7:00 PM	<b>Pastoral Search</b> Comm.
May	13	Wednesday	Noon	<b>Prime Timers</b> meet at church for lunch/program
		Wednesday	7:00 PM	<b>Church Council</b>
May	14	Thursday	7:00 PM	<b>Bell</b> Choir
May	17	Sunday	8:00 AM	<b>Pastoral Search</b> Committee
		Sunday	8:30 AM	C.E. <b>Volunteer Appreciation Breakfast / Meeting</b>
		Sunday	10:00 AM	Worship & Church School ( <i>begin in church</i> )
		Sunday	11:15 AM	<b>Cherub</b> Choir; 11:30 AM, <b>Junior</b> Choir
		Sunday	11:30 AM	<b>Women's Fellowship</b> meeting
		Sunday	11:45 AM	<b>Confirmation</b> Class
		Sunday	Noon	Trustees' <b>Work Day</b> at the church, with pizza.
May	18	Monday	7:00 PM	<b>Senior</b> Choir
		Thursday	7:00 PM	<b>Bell</b> Choir
May	24	Sunday	10:00 AM	Worship & Church School (begin in class)
		Sunday	11:15 AM	<b>Cherub</b> Choir; 11:30 AM, <b>Junior</b> Choir
May	25	Monday		<b>Memorial Day</b> - office closed; no Senior Choir
May	26	Tuesday	7:00 PM	<b>Pastoral Search</b> Committee
May	28	Thursday	7:00 PM	<b>Bell</b> Choir
May	31	Sunday	8:00 AM	<b>Pastoral Search</b> Committee
		Sunday	10:00 AM	Worship (Confirmation) & Church School ( <i>begin in church</i> )
		Sunday	11:15 AM	<b>Cherub</b> Choir; 11:30 AM, <b>Junior</b> Choir

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