



The newsletter of The First Congregational Church  
Canton Center, Connecticut

## **The CHURCHMOUSE**

**June 2009**

### **FROM THE INTERIM MINISTER**

Dear Friends,

I want to use this opportunity to remind you of some of the work that we need to do during this “interim time”. Now that the Search Committee is busy doing its work, there are things we should be doing to get ready for a new minister.

When I first arrived I spoke to you about the Developmental Tasks that were developed by The Alban Institute for churches in search of new pastoral leadership. They are:

- Coming to terms with history
- Discovering a new identity
- Leadership changes during an interim time
- Renewing denomination linkages
- Commitment to new directions in ministry.

**Now**  
*is the time!*

The Search Committee is working with the information you are giving them through the surveys and the extended coffee hour time to get information about the things you like about the church and the changes you’d like to see in the future. They have met with our Regional Minister, Ineke Mitchell about writing profiles and interviewing candidates for minister. But the members of the Search Committee are not the only ones who are working these days. There’s a lot going on around here.

The trustees have several projects going on with the physical buildings. If you were around last weekend, you saw the mulching going on; the building being power washed, scraped, and primed; and some minor repairs at the parsonage. But there are other things happening as well. The Personnel Committee is updating job descriptions for all church employees, the Council is looking at the church by-laws, and boards and committees are being asked to look at the procedures manuals. We’re getting our physical and spiritual house(s) in order. Expect to hear more about these things in the future.

As the program year comes to an end, we’re beginning to plan for the fall. There is a Bible study series going right now that is based on another of the Faith Lessons video series. This fall I’d like for us to do a book study. I’m open to suggestions from you for books we might consider.

The Confirmation class will be confirmed on May 31<sup>st</sup>. This will be a high point in the lives of these young people who have worked so hard this year.

Over the summer, I’m hoping that we can begin to get ready for the Harvest Fair. I’m looking for people who would be willing to help make things to sell at the fair. I’m looking for people to teach crafts, people to do crafts, and people to package crafts. So, if you sew, knit, crochet, stamp, scrapbook, macramé, make candy, or any other crafty thing, please let me know.

I hope you take some time this summer to enjoy this beautiful world we live in—to rest, relax—to re-create yourselves into the person(s) God is calling you to be. Be safe, remember to worship when you can, and praise God from whom all our blessings flow.

Keep the faith,

*Sue*

## CALENDAR OF CHURCH EVENTS

|         |           |              |  |
|---------|-----------|--------------|--|
| June 1  | Monday    | 7:00 PM      | <b>Senior Choir</b><br><b>Honor Court</b> , be hosted by our church in Hartford      |
| June 2  | Tuesday   | 10:30 AM     | Minister's <b>Bible Study</b> (morning session)                                      |
|         | Tuesday   | 7:00 PM      | <b>Diaconate</b>   |
| June 4  | Thursday  | 7:00 PM      | <b>Bell Choir</b>  |
| June 7  | Sunday    | 9:00 AM      | <b>Missions</b> Committee  |
|         | Sunday    | 9:00 AM      | <b>C.E. Sunday Rehearsal</b> in the sanctuary  |
|         | Sunday    | 10:00 AM     | Worship (Christian Education Sunday)<br>Children in church; No Classes; Nursery Care |
|         | Sunday    | 4:00 PM      | <b>Christian Education Committee</b> at Iannello's                                   |
| June 8  | Monday    | 6:30 PM      | <b>Board of Trustees</b>   |
|         |           | 6:30 PM      | <b>Music Committee</b>   |
|         |           | 7:00 PM      | <b>Senior Choir</b> (last rehearsal of the season)                                   |
| June 9  | Tuesday   | 7:00 PM      | <b>Pastoral Search Committee</b>   |
| June 10 | Wednesday | Noon         | <b>Prime Timers</b> meet in the Parish Hall  |
|         | Wednesday | 7:00 PM      | <b>Church Council</b>  |
| June 11 | Thursday  |              | <b>NO</b> Bell Choir   |
| June 14 | Sunday    | 8:00 AM      | <b>Pastoral Search</b> Comm.   |
|         | Sunday    | 10:00 AM     | Worship and Church<br>School (begin in church)                                       |
| June 16 | Tuesday   | 10:30 AM     | Minister's <b>Bible Study</b><br>(morning session)                                   |
|         | Tuesday   | 7:00 PM      | Minister's Bible Study<br>(evening session)  |
| June 20 | Saturday  | 7:30 AM      | <b>Strawberry Picking</b>  |
| June 21 | Sunday    | 10:00 AM     | Worship and "Summer<br>Sundays" for children<br>(begin <i>in church</i> )            |
|         | Sunday    |              | <b>Deadline</b> for summer issue of <i>The Churchmouse</i>                           |
|         | Sunday    | 4:00-7:00 PM | <b>STRAWBERRY FESTIVAL</b>   |
| June 23 | Tuesday   | 10:30 AM     | Minister's <b>Bible Study</b> (morning session)                                      |
|         |           | 7:00 PM      | Minister's <b>Bible Study</b> (evening session)                                      |
|         | Tuesday   | 7:00 PM      | <b>Pastoral Search</b> Committee   |
| June 28 | Sunday    | 10:00 AM     | Worship and "Summer Sundays" for children<br>(begin <i>in church</i> )               |
| June 30 | Tuesday   | 7:00 PM      | Minister's <b>Bible Study</b> (evening session)                                      |

| June 2009 |    |    |    |    |    |    |
|-----------|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| 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 |    |    |    |    |

**CHANGES IN SUMMER WORSHIP.** The worship schedule this summer will be a bit different.



- Worship will be at **10:00 AM for July and August.**
- Worship on **July 5 will be here at Canton Center** (no ecumenical worship).
- **Ecumenical Worship** (with our friends from Canton Baptist) will be here at **Canton Center, July 12 through August 2.**
- **Ecumenical Worship** will be at **Canton Community Baptist Church, August 9 through August 30.**