



The newsletter of The First Congregational Church  
Canton Center, Connecticut

## *The CHURCHMOUSE*

*February 2010*

### FROM THE INTERIM MINISTER

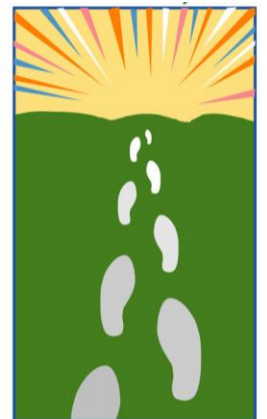
Dear Friends,

Congratulations on the election of your new pastor. I hope that this will be an advantageous match for all of you. From what I hear—it should be. Over the next couple of months, we will be talking more and more about the arrival of Rev. Rushan and the things we need to do to get ready.

Lent is just around the corner; Ash Wednesday being Wednesday, February 17<sup>th</sup>. With Lent comes the time of personal introspection and preparation. The lectionary lessons will talk to us about Jesus' life and ministry as we follow him to Jerusalem and the cross. We will, through music, prayers and reflection make our voices part of those of the crowds who followed him. We will be witnesses of his teachings and miracles as we traverse the countryside from Galilee to Jericho and ultimately to Jerusalem.

There will be several ways for you to take your own Lenten journeys with Jesus. Certainly, attendance at worship and church school will help you on your way. The Book Group will be having both morning and evening sessions, exploring the creation of the English Bible and its impact on our own faith tradition. There will be resources made available for study at home.

On Sunday, February 28<sup>th</sup>, we are planning a Potluck luncheon and a Lenten Pilgrimage Labyrinth workshop. This will include watching a video about labyrinths as a metaphor for pilgrimage, walking a labyrinth in the social hall, tracing finger labyrinths, journaling, coloring labyrinths and other geometric designs. There will be activities for all age levels. Even pre-school children enjoy following God's path to see where it leads. You see, with labyrinths there is only one path in and one path out; and as long as you stay on the path, you cannot get lost.



I will be in Bangor January 25-27, to drop off the first draft of my dissertation. So, from a personal perspective, this is a very exciting time for me. I'm in as much transition as the congregation.

Godspeed on your Lenten journeys,

*Sue*

## CALENDAR OF CHURCH EVENTS

Feb.	1	Monday	7:00 PM	Senior Choir
Feb.	2	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Diaconate
Feb.	3	Wednesday	7:00 PM	Bell Choir (change of day for this week)
		Wednesday	7:00 PM	JYF leaders meet to plan ecumenical youth event
Feb.	7	Sunday	8:30 AM	Christian Education Committee
		Sunday	10:00 AM	Worship and Church School
		Sunday	11:15 AM	Junior Choir
		Sunday	11:00 AM	JYF Grinder pick-ups / SYF Munson candy sales
Feb.	8	Monday	10:00 AM	Prayer Shawl Ministry
		Monday	6:30 PM	Board of Trustees
		Monday	6:30 PM	Music Committee
		Monday	7:00 PM	Senior Choir
Feb.	9	Tuesday	10:30 AM	Minister's Book Study
		Tuesday	7:00 PM	Minister's Book Study
Feb.	10	Wednesday	Noon	Prime Timers meet in the Parish Hall
		Wednesday	7:00 PM	Church Council
Feb.	11	Thursday	7:00 PM	Bell Choir
Feb.	14	Sunday	8:30 AM	Missionary & Stewardship Committee
		Sunday	10:00 AM	Worship and Church School
		Sunday	11:15 AM	Cherub Choir begins rehearsals for Easter
		Sunday	11:30 AM	Junior Choir (new time until Easter)
Feb.	15	Monday		Church Office closed for Presidents Day
		Monday	7:00 PM	Senior Choir
Feb.	16	Tuesday	10:30 AM	Minister's Book Study
		Tuesday	7:00 PM	Minister's Book Study
Feb.	17	Ash Wednesday		Lent begins
Feb.	18	Thursday	7:00 PM	Bell Choir
Feb.	20	Saturday	7:00 PM	Wider Church Fellowship Trivia Night
Feb.	21	Sunday	10:00 AM	Worship and Church School
		Sunday	11:15 AM	Cherub Choir
		Sunday	11:30 AM	Junior Choir
		Sunday	4:00 PM	JYF Ecumenical Youth Event and Supper
Feb.	22	Monday	7:00 PM	Senior Choir
Feb.	23	Tuesday	10:30 AM	Minister's Book Study
		Tuesday	7:00 PM	Minister's Book Study
Feb.	24	Wednesday	7:00 PM	ANNUAL MEETING OF THE CONGREGATION
Feb.	25	Thursday	7:00 PM	Bell Choir
Feb.	28	Sunday	10:00 AM	Worship and Church School
		Sunday	11:15 AM	Cherub Choir
		Sunday	11:30 AM	Junior Choir
		Sunday	11:30 AM	Lenten Pilgrimage Labyrinth potluck and workshop

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