



*The newsletter of The First Congregational Church
Canton Center, Connecticut*

The CHURCHMOUSE

March 2010

FROM THE INTERIM MINISTER

Dear Friends,

What I love about books like Dan Brown's, *The DaVinci Code* or *The Lost Symbol*, is that they push us to look at our faith more concretely. If they were just dramas with no basis in fact, we'd simply look at them as interesting stories. But because they espouse theories and ideas that have already been circling around in the halls of Christendom, they push us to clarify what it is we really believe.

Lent is a wonderful time to examine what it is we believe. It is forty days to read and ponder the ultimate meaning of our faith. Jesus spent his time in the wilderness, alone, without food or drink. I'm suggesting that we spend a few hours, each week, reading the Bible, something inspirational, or something provocative (in its best sense). Sometimes we need to push the limits of 'what we've always done' or read, to look at faith from a new perspective.

In Ann Weems' poem, *We Seem to Forget*, she reminds us that ours is not an unchanging, ancient faith, but rather it is a living faith that needs to be looked at and examined. And not just at Christmas and Easter.

*Minister's
Message
for Lent*



***What concerns me,
what lies on my heart,
is this:
That we in the church
papered and programmed
articulate and agenda-ed
are telling the faith story
all wrong,
are telling it as though it happened two thousand
years ago
or is going to happen
as soon as the church budget is raised.
We seem to forget that Christ's name is Emmanuel,
God with Us,
Not just when he sat among us
but now,
when we cannot feel the nailprints in his hands.***

Who is this Jesus we call the Christ, and how does he fit into our lives? This is the journey of Lent.

Blessings,

Sue

CALENDAR OF CHURCH EVENTS

| | | | | |
|-------|-------|---------------|--------------|---|
| Mar. | 1 | Monday | 7:00 PM | Senior Choir |
| Mar. | 2 | Tuesday | 7:00 PM | Diaconate |
| Mar. | 4 | Thursday | 7:00 PM | Bell Choir |
| Mar. | 7 | Sunday | 8:30 AM | Teachers' Meeting |
| | | Sunday | 10:00 AM | Worship/Church School |
| | | Sunday | 11:15 AM | Cherub Choir |
| | | Sunday | 11:30 AM | Junior Choir |
| Mar. | 8 | Monday | 6:30 PM | Board of Trustees |
| | | Monday | 6:30 PM | Music Committee |
| | | Monday | 7:00 PM | Senior Choir |
| Mar. | 9 | Tuesday | 10:30 AM | Minister's Book Study |
| | | Tuesday | 7:00 PM | Minister's Book Study |
| Mar. | 10 | Wednesday | 12:00 Noon | Prime Timers meet in the Parish Hall |
| | | Wednesday | 7:00 PM | Church Council |
| Mar. | 11 | Thursday | 7:00 PM | Bell Choir |
| Mar. | 12-14 | Fri-Sun | | All-Church Retreat at Silver Lake |
| Mar. | 14 | Sunday | | <i>Daylight Savings Time begins</i> |
| Mar. | 14 | Sunday | 8:30 AM | Missionary & Stewardship Committee |
| | | Sunday | 10:00 AM | Worship - Laity Sunday/Church School |
| | | Sunday | | NO Cherub Choir |
| | | Sunday | 11:30 AM | Junior Choir |
| Mar. | 15 | Monday | 7:00 PM | Senior Choir |
| Mar. | 16 | Tuesday | 10:30 AM | Minister's Book Study |
| | | Tuesday | 7:00 PM | Minister's Book Study |
| Mar. | 18 | Thursday | 7:00 PM | Bell Choir |
| Mar. | 21 | Sunday | 10:00 AM | Worship/Church School |
| | | Sunday | 10:00 AM | SYF Meeting |
| | | Sunday | 11:15 AM | Cherub Choir |
| | | Sunday | 11:30 AM | Junior Choir |
| | | Sunday | 11:30 AM | JYF Pizza and a Movie |
| Mar. | 22 | Monday | 7:00 PM | Senior Choir |
| Mar. | 23 | Tuesday | AM/PM | NO Minister's Bible Study |
| Mar. | 25 | Thursday | 7:00 PM | Bell Choir |
| Mar. | 28 | Palm Sunday | 9:55AM | Church School children meet in Parish Hall for Palm |
| | | | | Processional into worship |
| | | Palm Sunday | 10:00 AM | Worship/Church School |
| | | Palm Sunday | 11:00 AM | Potluck Dinner after worship |
| | | Palm Sunday | 11:15 AM | Cherub Choir |
| | | Palm Sunday | 11:30 AM | Junior Choir |
| Mar. | 29 | Monday | 7:00 PM | Senior Choir |
| Mar. | 30 | Tuesday | 10:30 AM | Minister's Book Study |
| | | Tuesday | 7:00 PM | Minister's Book Study |
| Mar. | 31 | Wednesday | 7:00 PM | Bell Choir (change of day) |
| April | 1 | Thursday | 7:30 PM | Maundy Thursday Worship |
| April | 4 | Easter Sunday | 9 & 10:30 AM | Easter Worship; NO Church School classes |

| March 2010 | | | | | | |
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