

Main Street Musing

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF SOUTH WINDSOR



August 2024

Get on the balcony is a term used when you want to convey the idea of getting another view of things from a different perspective. Jesus used this technique for himself and he would go to a quiet place to contemplate the situation or go on a hill to look down on the city as he did before his entry into Jerusalem known as Palm Sunday. Getting a new perspective is important when you are seeking direction during a major change or shift in your life, family, job or home and institution. A change of perspective can be gained when, like Jesus, we change our environment or space. This change of space creates a new energy and a different surrounding, which can create new emotions like relaxation, verses stress or fear. In this new space, the freedom to share and view the situation from a new perspective of relaxation and informality.... generates new ideas which surprise us by their effectiveness and simplicity. Last discernment meeting, we changed our meeting space from the more formal chapel with only the regular attendees, to the fellowship hall after coffee hour. In such a space where the feel was more informal and freer, many remained for the discussion, shared great thoughts and felt a sense of unity in our task as we enlarged the dialogue from a few to the many and created a more welcoming space TO ALL. New space...new atmosphere...new perspective. Like Jesus, we need to get on the balcony and get a view of the situation from higher ground or get to a quiet place. Each of you are invited to our next gathering to be a part of the creation of new ideas and possible action in the future as we continue to discern our situation. Your voice is VITAL. We invite ALL to these meetings. Be looking for our next one. And, yes, humor and having fun are part of this process, so bring your humor and a joke or two and let's have fun together. See you in church and at our next gathering of reflection and ways to put into practical actions those things necessary for a healthy, fun, and sacred future together. We are family.

Pastor Dean



Pastor Dean's Summer Hours & Office Schedule:
Tuesday - Friday 10am - 1:00pm; Monday: Off

Church Committee

Jean Jackson, Clerk

Clerk's highlights from the Church Committee meeting held July 9, 2024 –

- Treasurer's report - not available for the meeting as Sue Larsen is away.
- Investments - The brokerage account saw an increase of \$40,440 in June. \$13,815 was withdrawn to cover expenses, resulting in a net gain of \$26,625. The ending balance for June was \$2,086,594.
- The next Church Committee meeting will be held on Tuesday, August 13, 2024 at 6:30 pm. It will be held in the kitchen area of Fellowship Hall and on Zoom. All are welcome to attend whether or not you serve on a committee.



Linda Dalpe presents the Discernment Challenge during worship in July. Presenters have been challenged to talk about what First Church means to them as we walk through this discernment process together. What does First Church mean to you? Let us know - send a note to the church office.



Music Committee

Jean Jackson and Lisa Horsfield

- Both pianos were tuned in June.



Church Tag Sale

Jean Trotman

Tag Sale Saturday August 10th from 9AM to 3PM, rain or shine

This year the proceeds of the tag sale will go to the fund for repairing our floor in Fellowship Hall. We will need help from **everyone** to make this a success.



We are taking more time to set up this year. The schedule is as follows:

- **Tu – Fri 8/9, 9am-2pm** sort, clean, arrange and price donations.
- **The week of 8/4-10.** In addition to continuing to prep donations, set up a large tent outside for bulky items, set up grill area for the sale of hot dogs, bring in homemade donations for the bake sale, set up cashier stations (one outside and one inside).
- **8/10.** From 8:00 am to ?
 - We will need people to be present before the official start as many customers also arrive early. In addition, we need many hands to help customers, pack up purchases, cashier, grill hot dogs, sell baked goods.
 - After 2:00, pack up what is left. We will again need pickup trucks, etc. and helpers to remove remaining items.

Contact Jean Trotman to arrange for someone to open the church and disarm/arm the alarm system if you want to work outside of regular Church Office hours.

Let me know if you need help moving anything to the church.

We will take smaller furniture items, but not anything that is too large/heavy as we don't have the muscle power to lift/carry it. Otherwise, any of the items you typically see at tag sales is fine with the exception of clothing. Bring your donations directly to the church after 7/21. Please do not leave things at the warehouse or barn after 7/21.

We would also appreciate it if you can save your newspapers and bags to use for packing purchases.

Jean Trotman C: 860-690-9071, H: 860-289-7637

Sharing Our Talents

Linda Dalpe

"We all have talent...this new fundraising strategy is to showcase a talent that you never really thought about..."

- Does everyone love a certain cake you make?
- Are you a great cook?
- Would you pull weeds for two hours in someone's garden?
- What about babysitting or "grandma" sitting?
- Would you be willing to run errands, or do grocery shopping?
- What about doing computer lessons, or teach other skills that you have?
- Do you like to clean house, organize things, wash windows, iron?
- Paint outside or inside?
- Are you good at repairing things?
- Do you like to repot plants? Grow cuttings?
- Will you take all of the bottles /cans back that have been accumulating for someone?
- Do you have a large garden and are willing to sell your extra vegetables or flowers?
- Would you be willing to work for several hours to help someone on a task that they need help with?
- Are you a woodworker who loves to build birdhouses, or love to paint?
- Other talent?????

Here's how it works

You reserve a "ticket" for the item or work. Contact the person and arrange for the work/product. You decide if the product is to be picked up or delivered. Once the item is delivered/ talent received, the money earned is your donation into this project.

Here are some examples:

1) With 48 hours' notice, xxxx will make an agreed upon dinner for one/two at the cost of \$25? or \$39? (to be determined). The cook can take out the cost of the ingredients and then the remainder is deposited into the capital fund.

2) With advance notice, xxxx will come and work in your garden or ...for two (or 3) hours @ say \$16-18 an hour...or whatever fee you set.

Payment is then issued and turned over to Sue Larsen to be earmarked for the capital fundraising project.

Publicity

Ticket/Talents will be hung on the bulletin board in fellowship hall for members to access.

A “thermometer” will be created/displayed with the indicator rising as we reach each goal line.

Fill out the form on the next page, and give the information to:

Linda Dalpe

Lindald001@aol.com or

call Linda at 860-528-1936

It can also be left in the UCW mailbox.

We will make your tickets!



Indicate how many of the same tickets you want to post. Also, please let us know if this talent is ‘renewable’ after all of the tickets have been used.

Example: I am willing to do 6 cakes.

Or ... I am willing to do (4) two-hour weeding sessions.

Or ... I will do 2 dinners ...

Or whatever your talent / share is...etc.

If you have more than one idea, we will create separate tickets.

We will then print them up and hang them on the board in the lower hall...They will be green tickets. \$\$\$

If you need someone to do something, then we can move on to “I need help with...” Post hours, when, etc., and how much you will pay for the job. These will be pink tickets.

Finally, turn in the money to Sue Larsen.

Sharing Our Talents

Name: _____

Contact phone: _____

Email: _____

Talent: _____

Cost for my Talent: _____

Description of what it is:

Hours /days needed in advance notice:

Additional parameters...i.e. has to be on a weekend, etc.

Other Information:

Will Deliver _____ Must Pickup _____

Renewable: _____ # of times: _____



*Capital Fundraising, continued.
Cans and bottles recycling drive*



Redemption of soda cans and bottles has now increased to \$.10 each. Also, juice bottles have been added to the list. Look for the **CTRV** designation. Cans containing alcohol such as hard ciders are not accepted at the redemption center.

Glass bottles must be placed in their original container (e.g. beer) or a box. Cans and plastic must be separated. There are boxes just outside the kitchen for the soda cans and plastic bottles.

Check the roadsides, walking trails etc. for discarded bottles and cans. We can not only raise money to repair the floor in Fellowship Hall, but help the environment...

\$.10 here, \$.10 there, soon adds up to significant money.

See Judy Borré if you have any questions.

Historian's Column

Mary Crittenden

Digging into Our History, Traditions, and Change

A little more than thirty years ago, I was new to First church. I had sat with a friend on the south side on my first Sunday. She was not here the next week but I choose to sit in the same pew as the week before. Almost immediately, Marge McCafferty came over from the north side and invited me to sit with her and her husband Neil. I accepted and for a few Sundays sat with them.

One Sunday, Art (The Rev. Arthur Dunham) came to "our" pew to ask me if I would serve as an alternate delegate to the Hartford East Association Meetings. Marge was a delegate. I accepted. Marge and I were soon attending an ordination in South Glastonbury.



This was a new experience for me. And, yes, I had a vote at the meeting before the ordination. These meetings to consider the candidate's suitability precede the ordination either at another date or just before the ordination service.

At these meetings you learn about the candidate, their preparation for the ministry and often see the paper that they have prepared. There is a period when delegates and clergy can ask questions of the candidate. They then vote to ordain or not. Ordination usually takes place in the church that has brought the candidate before the Church and Ministry Committee and has been involved in that person's preparation for the ministry. A candidate is not ordained until they have a position and often have been installed in that place.

Our own church's experience with this process was when Sarah Iverson was with us as a first time pastor. We waited several months until her fiancé had finished his last semester and moved to Connecticut. Her ordination was held in her home church in Whitman, Mass. Our choir prepared to sing at the ordination service. Many of us traveled there by bus. We returned to that church at a later date for Sarah and Andrew Courtney's wedding.

Now, in July 2024, we are witnessing a new way of celebrating an ordination. The candidate, Kim Serio sponsored by Glastonbury First Church of Christ Congregational is being called as an Associate Chaplain of Spiritual Services at Children's Mercy Hospital in Kansas City, MO. The trip for her to come back to the Glastonbury Church for her ordination ceremony would mean making a round trip of 2,640 miles (39 hours by car.) This ordination is being held in a new way. There will be people present in person and on Zoom. The candidate Kim Serio will be in Kansas City with people in person there and joined by people in CT on Zoom. First Church delegates attending on Zoom are Judy Borré and Mary Crittenden.

One more way that the push to learn new ways during Covid is being utilized as we transition to accommodating today's needs.

Change comes from new needs and challenges: solutions to new problems inspire change.



Preparations are well underway for First Church's participation in the townwide tag sale on Saturday, August 10th from 9am-3pm. The proceeds from the Tag Sale will benefit our capital improvement plan to repair our church floor. Photos were taken during the initial unpacking and sorting.

Church Family News



Joseph Charette 08/01
Elizabeth Addington 08/02
Terry Belknap 08/04
Jared Charette 08/07
Mary Crittenden 08/09
Rachel Mathiau 08/11
Susan Ventura 08/14

Sean Woble 08/16
Mark Weiland 08/22
Elsie Woolam 08/23
Doreen Jackson 08/27
Joseph Woble 08/28
Iva Burnham 08/31



Laura & Stefan Klein 08/06
Edie & Robert Starr 08/18
Silvia & George Mikkola 08/25
Dawn & Jay Samsel 08/26
Lynda & Patrick Jones 08/26

IN OUR Thoughts and Prayers

Doris Burgdorf
Della Mitchell
Cliff McClellan
Edie & Bob Starr
The Cox Family

The Zaugg Family
Joyce Coon
Lisa Horsfield
Bob Woodward
Rod Johnson



With Sincere Sympathy

Thoughts and prayers are with the Zaugg family for the recent passing of our dear friend and member Ray Zaugg.

Thoughts and prayers are with the Cox family for the recent passing of our dear friend and member Patricia 'Patti' Cox.

Newsletter Deadline

The next newsletter issue will be published in **September 2024**. Please send your submissions and **photos** to the church office by **August 16th** for inclusion: firstchurchsw@gmail.com Thank you.



Church Office Hours

Hours are Tuesday – Friday 9 am – 2 pm, unless otherwise noted.



Saturday, August 24th,
10 AM
First Congregational
Church
993 Main Street
South Windsor, CT

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF SOUTH WINDSOR

United Church of Christ

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TO: