

Main Street Musing

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF SOUTH WINDSOR

July-August 2018

Dear Friends and Neighbors,

It is with great enthusiasm that I share some of the upcoming events we have to look forward to this summer! This is the combined July/August edition, so there is much to tell!

On Sunday, June 24, our congregation hosted a 'pit-stop' for the merging Temple Beth Hillel and Temple Beth Ahm synagogues as they completed the last leg of their 10 mile march from Windsor to South Windsor, cradling their sacred Torah.

Thank you to Moderator Terry Belknap and all those who volunteered to provide drinks, snacks and support to our Jewish friends and community members on this momentous occasion, and to stand in faith with them in the bittersweet experience of loss and gain, grief and joy, commemoration and celebration. Shalom!

Bible Bites at Dari Delite, our mini-vacation Bible school is gearing up for its kick-off July 18.

Lt. Glenn Buonanducci will be visiting us on July 22 for a Second Hour to present the South Windsor Police Department's, "Citizens' Response to Active Threats," an informative perspective on violence prevention awareness in our public forums.

Our bicycle-themed worship services based on the Rev. Laura Everett's book, *holy spokes* promise to be inspiring. Join us as we enjoy Everett's observations on cycling, connections with Holy Scripture, spirituality and life together as God's children.

Preparations are being made for our very own Bob Starr's exclusive author/book debut on August 8! The subject matter is transcribed from his Civil War doctor-ancestor's diaries! Stay tuned for more on this event.

Sunday, August 12, we will share in the joy of baptism and the artistry of gifted organist Glenn Orkney. Some of you may remember hearing Mr. Orkney's wonderful music at my ordination on Fishers Island in 2016. Don't miss this opportunity to hear him again or for the first time!

There's much more – too much to fit in this letter – so keep your eyes, ears and hearts open for the activities of the Creator, Son and Holy Spirit as we listen for the word of God together in the balmy days of summer!

Joyfully,

Nina



Church Committee

Jean Jackson
Church Clerk

June 12, 2018 Church Committee Highlights -

- Investments - In April the account increased \$14,253.00. \$10,000.00 was withdrawn to cover expenses, resulting in a net gain of \$4,253.00. The end value for April was \$1,809,724.64. In May the account increased \$24,917.40. \$7,000.00 was withdrawn to cover expenses, resulting in a net gain of \$17,917.40. The end value for May is \$1,827,642.04.
- Next meeting of the Church Committee is August 28, 2018. The purpose is to prepare for Fall events. No committee reports will be presented at this meeting. All are invited to attend, whether or not you serve on a committee or board.

Second Hour Program

Sunday, July 22

Lt. Glenn Buonanducci of the South Windsor Police



Department has agreed to come join us in a conversation about safety awareness. His presentation titled, "Citizens' Response to Active Threats," is an empowering program that should prove to be enlightening and helpful to us as we navigate these days of recurring gun violence in our

country. There will be plenty of time for your questions. Light lunch will be served.



From Kamilla Mammedova, Music Director

Deacon's News

Mary Crittenden

Just a few notes for the summer.

During our meeting this month, we came to consensus not to move our

worship services down stairs this year. If needed, the air conditioned Metzger Chapel is available. Sound system speakers are installed, so that you may continue to participate in the service.

Watch your church bulletin for more information regarding an evening outdoor Vespers Service.



Christian Education News

BIBLE BITES RETURNS! Christian Education is happy to announce the second Bible Bites Mini-Vacation Bible School at Dari Delite, 301 S. Main Street, East Windsor, CT thanks to the hospitality of Julie, the owner. The schedule will follow last year's format. This year's theme is "Fun in the Sun." Dates are as follows: **Wed., Jul. 18 - 3-5 pm; Sat., July 28 - 11 am-1 pm; Wed., Aug 1 - 3-5 pm; and Sat., Aug 11 - 11 am -1 pm.** Bible Bites provides an opportunity for our kids' continuing engagement in addition to church throughout the summer; a little added special time together. The days and times are

staggered with hopes that it offers everyone an opportunity, since it is impossible to satisfy all schedules. Parents will be responsible for bringing and picking up their children or signing a permission slip designating someone else for pick up. We are excited and hope to see you at this 'Delite-ful' event! No need to sign up - just show up! Pastor Nina and Mrs. Starr are looking forward to another session of casual conversation and Bible learning with the kids!



Book Launch

Save the date of August 8th for the launch of "Pierre Starr, Surgeon - 39th Ohio Infantry." Transcribed from the dairies found by Robert Starr.



Trustees News

Carroll Stearns

The church has recently received a very valuable gift from a member of our congregation, Mr. James Senatro. Many of you know Jim as the husband to Kelly and father to three young children Colby, Liam and Eleanor. Turns out he is also a professional engineer, a vice president at Consulting Engineering Services Inc. and an expert in building environmental systems including older steam heating plants such as ours.

Recently Jim offered his services, free of charge, to provide the Trustees with an analysis of our church's environmental systems. That excellent report is now complete and generally the results, which are summarized below, are very good.

- The church boiler as well as the radiators and piping which make up most of our heating system are in good condition with 20 to 30 years useful life remaining. Replacement of one system element, a condensate tank/pump package, was recommended as it had reached the end of its useful life. A replacement has been ordered.
- The maintenance program carried out jointly by church members and Mitchell Fuel is a good one with very few changes recommended. He did suggest that the boiler would benefit from being started once or twice during the summer and run just long enough to reach operating temperature. Our failure to have the church chimney inspected on a regular basis was noted as a potential problem. The inspection that we ordered as a result



identified the need for the installation of a metal lining, the addition of a cleanout door and some repair to the existing brick. This work has been ordered and should be complete by the end of July.

- The churches current electrical system was also reviewed and found adequate for the current uses. It was noted however that the addition of electrical devices, circuits and lighting over the years has produced the potential for circuit overload. Also the installation of electrical baseboard heating has been suggested as a way to correct cold restrooms in the winter. As a result it was suggested that we consider upgrading our electrical service to better meet both current and projected future needs. This recommendation is under review by the board.
- The plumbing systems were also studied. The copper water supply system as well as the mostly cast iron pipe for venting and drains were all found to be in good condition. Changes to existing maintenance protocols for the electric hot water heater were recommended to extend its useful life.

Jim continues to support the Trustees in a number of ways. First he has met with us to answer our question on the report. He is also assisting in finding appropriate contractors for projects under consideration as well as providing feedback on the content and cost of proposals received.

In all, Mr. Senatro has proven a very valuable asset to our church family and I thank him on behalf of both the Board of Trustees and the members of First Church.



Music Committee Notes

Jean Jackson

The choir is off for the summer.

Kamilla will be on vacation in August. Our guest organists will be Sheryl O'Connor on August 5, and Glenn Orkney on August 12. Sheryl also joined us on May 27 while Kamilla and her son celebrated his birthday in New York.



Food Ingathering

On the second Sunday of the month (**July 8th and August 12th**) we collect items for a food pantry. We have learned from Andrea Cofrancesco, Director of Human Services, Town of South Windsor that "Paper goods for sure! Toilet paper, paper towels, tissues, and cleaning products!" These donations are appreciated greatly.



Holiday Fair Update

Linda Dalpe

Raffle Baskets

The following themes are being planned for our raffle baskets. If you have ideas or items to help make these baskets an amazing attraction to the fair contact MaryAnne Novak or Linda Dalpe. A tub will be available in Fellowship Hall to leave much appreciated donations. If you have a connection with a business, Claudia Steele, our Administrative Assistant, can give you a letter from the church to give to them for tax purposes if they are willing to donate an item or gift certificate for one of the themed baskets. We are also looking for silent auction items. To date we have a very interesting cat themed basket.



Time for Me	Family Fun
UConn Fan	Tool Time
Staycation	Car Talk
Garden Paradise	Dinner Delight

New product lines

During the summer, work continues on interesting items for the fair both in the workshop as well as at home. One particular theme that has garnered interest is the new "upcycled" and "green" corner with items that are protecting our environment. New products for our pet corner are being discussed and made. Painting, woodworking, crafting, knitting, sewing and crocheting projects are underway as we continue to look for new ideas that are currently in vogue.

Summer Projects & Workshops

All are welcome to come to the crafting nights held at 1090 Main St. Bring a friend, ideas, or something that you'd like to have help assembling. There is always much to do. It is however very helpful to know if you are coming so that table space and projects can be set out to be worked on. It is also very helpful to know if you are working on specific projects at home so that we don't duplicate efforts.

Here are the following work dates for summer. Please note that we are **returning to Monday nights at the end of July.**

Monday July 30

Monday August 6, 13, 20, 27

Should there be anyone who cannot attend during the evening sessions, there are some day projects that need to be worked on if you have the time in August. Contact Linda Dalpe to let her know of your availability at 860-528-1936 or email her at lindald001@aol.com.

Grandma's Attic & Treasure Trove

We will be taking in Grandma's Attic and Treasure Trove items over the next several months, but will not be taking in furniture. If you have something that you think would be an addition to these booths, let us know.

Stay Informed and Talk It Up

There will be a fair meeting to finalize preparations for the fair towards the end of summer/early fall once a date can be finalized when it doesn't conflict with other events.

Thank you for all that you are doing to make our fair such a well talked about and attended event with products that showcase the talent in our church family.



Newsletter Deadline

The next newsletter will be the September edition. Please have your articles in to the church office by 9 am on the 15th of August. Articles can be submitted electronically or left in the Administrative Assistant's mailbox. The newsletter does not write itself!!!! We need your input. Thank you!

Don't Miss the

DEADLINE!

Coffee Hour Hosts needed

The sign-up sheets for coffee hour are posted on the bulletin board near the kitchen window. Hosts are needed for July 22nd, all of August and September. Please check your calendars to see when you might be able to host this time of fellowship and conversation. Thank you to all that have hosted.



It's a Truck!?

Mary Crittenden



Sometimes we go in search of a word. On display in the Memorial Cabinet is a wooden set of pulleys. Another smaller one is in Rev. Nina's Office. The Pastor Emeritus Art Dunham called it a truck or at least that is what I thought he said. I asked him at another time with the same result.

I tried looking up the word "truck." At first, I did not find anything in the definitions that referred to pulleys. And so the search was on. I have had fun learning more about church bells and how they are installed and maintained. Nothing there was called a truck! There were discussions of pulleys. Both in reference to use and how they wear. (Wooden pulleys will get out of round with time as they flatten on the cross-grain sides.)

At last I found that Merriam-Webster included in the definition "a small wooden cap at the top of a flagstaff or masthead usually having holes for reeving flag or signal halyards" So delving into the etymology and origin of the word, I followed the trail to truckle bed and found, "truckle small wheel, pulley, from Middle English trokell, from Latin trochlea block of pulleys." Going one step farther, I found that trochlea is "New Latin, from Latin, block of pulleys, from Greek trochileia, from trochilosheave, from trochos wheel."

We think of trucks as a means for transporting things and traveling on wheels. Now we can add to our understanding that it can be a block or a sheave of pulleys used to change the direction of the rope that rings the church bell.

New Arrival at First Church

No, it isn't a baby. It isn't even inside the church building! We have secured a 96 gallon recycling tote. This tote is for recyclables only, especially paper and cardboard. There is a blue recycling wastebasket in the mailroom. There is an orange recycling box just inside the north doorway near the freezer. Please use these receptacles for any paper. Remember returnable plastic bottles (2L and single serving size) and returnable beverage cans are to be placed in their respective recycling boxes in Fellowship Hall.



5th Annual Sewin4Servicemen Update

The 5th Annual Sewin4Servicemen has ended on a very high note. Each year as I am preparing the dedication display of lap quilts, I tell the participants that I am going to challenge them in the next session. They claim that more than 40 can't be done and they created 60; more than 60 can't be done, created 84. For the 4th annual session, the challenge was to hang quilts from the choir loft. As usual the participants rose to the challenge and have been working on 125 quilt kits with 80 completed quilts returned as of this writing.

Due to the flu "epidemic," distribution of the lap quilts created and dedication in 2017 was unable to start until April 10, 2018 at the Residence in South Windsor and ended on June 6th at Tolland Senior Moments. With the help of the South Windsor American Legion Abe E. Miller Post #133, 4 additional facilities were added which brought our outreach efforts to 8 facilities and the distribution of 80 lap quilts. Next year we hope to visit Woodlake in Tolland and The Arbors in Manchester

The facilities visited this year were: The Residence (South Windsor), The Village at Buckland Court (South Windsor), Brookdale (South Windsor), White Oaks Retirement (Manchester), Manchester Manor (Manchester), Freshwater Rehabilitation (East Windsor), Touch Point (East Windsor) and Tolland Senior Moments (Tolland).



The "Sewin" participants that helped with the distributions commented on how nice it feels to show the veterans our appreciation of their service and sacrifice and to see how our work is received by the veterans. At Manchester Manor, our church family was remembered as we gave a lap quilt to Edie Starr's brother Vibert Dean (pictured above in the wheelchair) along with members of the American Legion Abe E. Miller Post #133, staff of Manchester members and members of the First Congregational Church Sewin4Servicemen project team.

Church Family News



With Deepest Sympathy

We extend our sympathy to the family and friends of Lin Addington, who entered eternal life on Monday, June 18th, and whose service was Friday, June 29th. Please keep the Addington family in your prayers during this time of grief and loss.



BIRTHDAYS

Rick Whitin	07/04	Joseph Charette	08/01
Barbara Wright	07/07	Terry Belknap	08/04
Laura Klein	07/08	Jared Charette	08/07
Avis Pelletier	07/08	Mary Crittenden	08/09
Alex Margiott	07/09	Susan Ventura	08/14
Ray Zaugg	07/12	Sean Woble	08/16
Scott Horsfield	07/18	Mark Weiland	08/22
Catherine Slack	07/20	Elsie Woolam	08/23
Sheila McIntosh	07/21	Merle Dinse	08/27
Adrienne Andrews	07/30	Joseph Woble	08/28
		Iva Burnham	08/31



Stefan & Laura Klein	08/06
Brad & Barbara Wright	08/11
Robert & Edie Starr	08/18
George & Silvia Mikkola	08/25
Jay & Dawn Samsel	08/26



In Our Prayers

Joyce and Wayne Coon	Lorraine Clapp
Bev Nielsen	Shirley Lawton
Doris Burgdorf	Vibert Deane
Bruce Burnham	

Book Group

Mary Crittenden's daughter has graciously invited book group participants to her cottage at Chalker Beach in Old Saybrook. Thank you! The date: **Thursday, August 2.** Time and directions to be announced. The book: **90 Minutes in Heaven** by Don Piper.



Send them a note today!

Bev Nielsen
58 Pleasant Valley Road
South Windsor, CT 06074

Wayne & Joyce Coon
Arbors at Hopbrook
403 W Center Street; Apt. 316
Manchester, CT 06040

Lorraine Clapp
1693 John Fitch Blvd
South Windsor, CT 06074

Gifts and Memorials

Rachel Anderson
We have given the Trustees an additional \$500.00 to help with window replacement. It came from funds in memory of Charles Nielsen Sr.



Rockwell Scholarship recipients this year are Tyler Machowski (pictured) who is attending the University of Rhode Island and Morgan Gobin who is attending the University of Hartford

We offer congratulations to both of them and wish them a good 2018- 2019 school year.

Floral Expressions Closing

Floral Expressions will be closing at the end of June. If you are looking for a florist for your Sunday flowers, Broad Brook Gardens on Sullivan Avenue has provided us with good service. Remember, donors are responsible for ordering and delivering the flowers to the church in time for the service.

Church Picnic



2nd ANNUAL
CHURCH PICNIC!



June 10,
2018...well
attended...beautiful day...ice cream truck!

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Staff:

Minister: Rev. Nina Barlow Schmid
Organist: Kamilla Mammedova
Administrative Assistant: Claudia Steele
Sexton: Katie Graham

SAVE THE DATE

Creative Hands Every Wednesday at 10am
Bible Bites 7/18, 7/28, 8/1, 8/11
Second Hour Luncheon and Speaker 7/22
Holiday Fair Workshops ... 7/30, 8/06, 13, 20, 27
Book Group 8/2
Newsletter Article Deadline 8/15
Church Committee 8/28

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FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF SOUTH WINDSOR

“He who sows courtesy reaps friendship, and he who plants kindness gathers love.”
 —St. Basil