

Main Street Musing

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF SOUTH WINDSOR



October 2024

God in Pursuit

The green-eyed monster, psychological immaturity – these are a few terms used to describe the state of mind called jealousy! But I believe the most accurate description is given by the English poet, Joseph Addison who said, “Jealousy is that pain which a person feels from apprehension that this one is not equally beloved by the person this individual entirely loves.”

This is how God’s jealousy is understood. It is the kind of jealousy that impels God to pursue us despite our evasions, indifference, or waywardness. God pursues us relentlessly, shrewdly, passionately! God is a lover who feels pain when we, the object of his love, is not equally returned!

Human jealousy is negative and has destructive ends. It kills what it wants to love! It wants to possess and force the other to love back. This is not true love, which must be given freely and from our heart. God’s intense love, that we should desire, urges us to put God first in our lives and to seek to love God as equally as God loves us!

How can we demonstrate our love for God? How can we actively pursue God?

Put God first. You, Oh Lord, are all I desire. Jesus’s life was all about this. He showed us God was his heart’s desire. Let Jesus guide you in how to love God best by staying close to Jesus.

Prayer: Commune with God through daily prayer. Take time to come to God to ask God for strength, increase of faith, and tell God what is on your mind and heart as you would a beloved lover.

Worship: God demands we come together as a community of faith to worship God. We need to be with others who share a common need to have a higher purpose in life. In worship, God speaks to us quietly through music, hearing the ancient scriptures read, and the word preached, we find this time is crucial to our spiritual growth and is a way

to keep our promise to support God's church and its mission in the world.

These are ways we can return God's love for us to the One who so relentlessly pursues us! Who are you jealous of in your life? Or what are you jealous of? Is God first and last in your life? Is your spirit pained when your love is not matched by your beloved? God will never betray you! His pursuit of you is endless until God finds your love for God returned. Being in church is a good place to begin your journey or growth. Join us Sundays – God is anxiously awaiting you. See you in church!

Pastor Dean



Pastor Dean's Fall Hours & Office Schedule:
Tuesday - Friday 8am - 1:30pm; Monday: Off

Church Committee

Jean Jackson, Clerk

Clerk's highlights from the Church Committee meeting held September 10, 2024 -

- Treasurer's report - August income was \$13,039.15. Income includes \$7,000 received from the brokerage account to cover expenses. Expenses were \$18,748.98. Deficit for August was \$5,709.83; year-to-date deficit is \$12,418.61.
- Investments - The brokerage account saw an increase of \$65,085.56 in August. \$9,129.51 was withdrawn to cover expenses, resulting in a net gain of \$55,956.05. The ending balance for August is \$2,190,413.88. No changes were made to the portfolio.
- The next Church Committee meeting will be held on Tuesday, October 8, 2024 at 6:30 pm. It will be held in Fellowship Hall and on Zoom. All are welcome to attend whether or not you serve on a committee.



Music Committee

Jean Jackson and Lisa Horsfield

The choir will regroup the end of September.



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 loves to paint?
- Other talents?????

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: _____



Historian's Column

Mary Crittenden

The colonists left Dorchester led by Reverends John Maverick and John Warham to settle a place called Matianuck. They had several reasons for trekking overland to settle in the Connecticut River Valley.



When they arrived on the New England shore, they were put onto land south of Boston. These Puritan settlers had arrived in 1630 from England on the ship Mary and John; 130 settlers on board. It was just the first of several ships to arrive. They brought around 1,500 people. They decided to call their settlement "Dorchester," naming it after the place where many of the settlers came from in England. It was incorporated in the Massachusetts Bay Colony on 7 September 1630.

Now why did they leave Dorchester? Yes, there were several factors that prompted the migration: 1). they had been invited by the natives living in the area that became Windsor. 2). In addition, the soil was thin and rocky in Dorchester which made for poor farming and they had reports of the fertile soil here. 3). But probably the more important reason had to do with religion and politics. The Religious leaders of both Windsor and Wethersfield led their congregations to the Connecticut River Valley as they were in agreement with Rev. Hooker who brought people to Hartford about the same time.

There were differences between the religious leaders in the Massachusetts Bay Colony and the Rev. Thomas Hooker. A devout Puritan minister, Hooker had some controversial opinions regarding the church and its relationship to the government, such as linking voting rights to church membership. This was just as the Antinomian Controversy* in the Massachusetts Bay Colony concerning salvation was beginning.

The people who established Windsor and Wethersfield became part of the River Colony. While Connecticut churches mirrored Massachusetts Bay, they were different politically, because town and colonial government allowed more access by non-church members.

Next month: We consider the early days of Windsor.

*Antinomian Controversy:

Antinomian is a word coined by Martin Luther meaning: Antinomianism is any view which rejects laws or legalism and argues against moral, religious or social norms, or is at least considered to do so. The term has both religious and secular meanings. -Wikipedia

The Antinomian Controversy, also known as the Free Grace Controversy, was a religious and political conflict in the Massachusetts Bay Colony from 1636 to 1638. It pitted most of the colony's ministers and magistrates against some adherents of Puritan minister John Cotton. -Wikipedia

The teachings of Anne Hutchinson (arrived in the colony 1634) put her and her teachings at odds with most ministers and laws in Massachusetts Bay Colony.

She stressed the individual's intuition as a means of reaching God and salvation, rather than the observance of institutionalized beliefs and the precepts of ministers. "She believed that heaven was open to those who worshipped God through a personal connection, without the need for any church intervention." -Britannica

*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.

Redemption fees of \$.10 here, \$.10 there, soon adds up to significant money. See Judy Borré if you have any questions.

Church Family News



Alexandra Novak 10/01
 Kaden Anderson 10/04
 Eulie McNulty 10/05
 Kevin Woolam 10/12
 Courtney Neary 10/12
 Jerry Dalpe 10/19
 Liesl Dalpe 10/19
 Cody Anderson 10/19
 Edie Starr 10/20
 John McNulty 10/26
 Phillip Dunham 10/27



Terry & James Belknap 10/27



Doris Burgdorf
 Della Mitchell
 Cliff McClellan
 The Cox Family

The Zaugg Family
 Joyce Coon
 Bob Woodward
 Carol Mattera

Newsletter Deadline

The next newsletter issue will be published in **November 2024**. Please send your **submissions and photos** to the church office by **October 11th** for inclusion: firstchurchsw@gmail.com ~ Thanks!



Church Office Hours

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



The Edwards Center invited Elise Feeley from Forbes Library in Northampton, Ma to speak about Jonathan Edwards and give a talk about the history following worship in September. The event was held in celebration of First Church's 330 Anniversary. A wonderful luncheon followed in Fellowship Hall.



First Church Pasta Dinner Fundraiser

Friday, October 4, 2024

5-7:30PM

First Congregational Church
993 Main Street, South Windsor



PASTA

Dinner

\$25 per person includes a generous Pasta Dinner with homemade meatballs and sauce, salad, bread, coffee, tea and dessert.

Advanced ticket purchase required.
Contact First Church to reserve yours!

firstchurchsw@gmail.com

(860) 528-7992

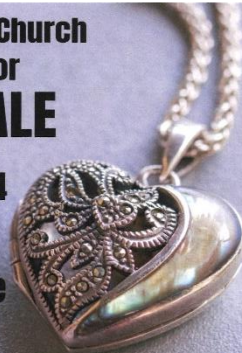
Church office hours Tues-Fri 9AM-2PM

This Pasta Dinner is a fundraiser to repair the floor of our historic church.
We thank you for your support!

First Congregational Church of South Windsor JEWELRY SALE

Saturday, October 5, 2024
10AM-3PM

Fashion, Costume, Vintage
Jewelry Galore!



This Jewelry Sale is a fundraiser to repair the floor of our historic church. Thanks for your support!

First Congregational Church 993 Main Street South Windsor, CT



First Church will participate in the Annual Manchester Community CROP Hunger Walk. Vicky Margiott is heading up the First Church team! By participating through walking or through donating, you are helping to end hunger in our community and worldwide, one step at a time! Want to walk? Sunday, October 20th at 1:00PM from Wapping Church. Scan the QR code above to donate. The bulletin board in Fellowship Hall also has some more information about this important community mission.



YOU'RE INVITED!
LADIES DINNER SOCIAL

Three Season's Cafe at
TopStone Golf Course

516 Griffin Road, South Windsor
October 25 - 5:30 P.M.

Buffet Dinner and Cash Bar \$55.00

Ladies! Let's Get Together for Fall Fun
& Neighborhood Comradery.

All proceeds will benefit the repair of
floor in fellowship hall at
First Congregational Church
993 Main Street

RSVP/Tickets by October 15:
Sherri Milkie 860-460-9599 text/call
Linda Levack Dalpe 860-528-1936 text/call



FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF SOUTH WINDSOR

United Church of Christ

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PO Box 165

South Windsor, CT 06074-0165

860-528-7992

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TO: