

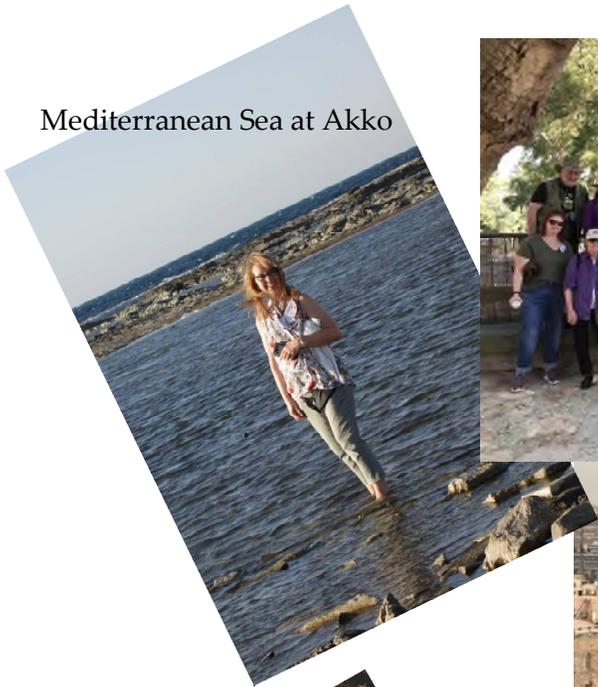
# Main Street Musing

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF SOUTH WINDSOR

December 2018

Nina Joins Temple Beth Hillel Israel 20Chai Tour  
October 30 - November 13, 2018

Mediterranean Sea at Akko



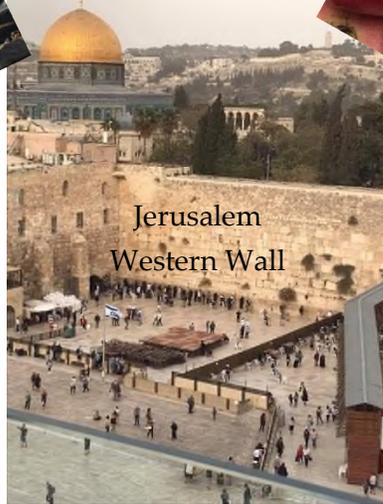
Group Photo



Pomegranates



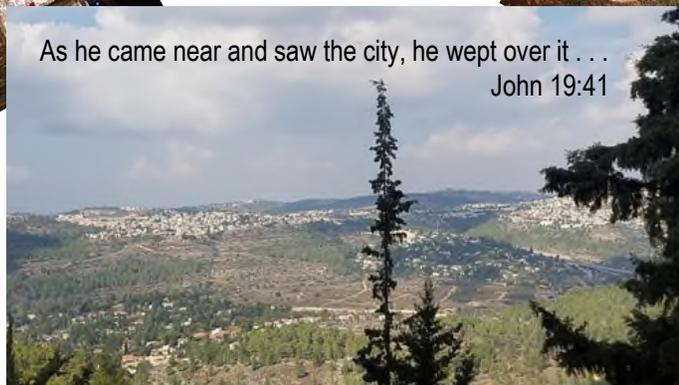
Jerusalem  
Western Wall



Planting Olive Trees



As he came near and saw the city, he wept over it . . .  
John 19:41





### *Church Committee* *Jean Jackson* *Church Clerk*

November 13, 2018 Church Committee Highlights -

- Kip Dalpe, Vice Moderator, did a wonderful job moderating the meeting.
- No financial reports were available.
- Next meeting of the Church Committee is December 11, 2018 at 6:30 p.m. All are invited to attend, whether or not you serve on a committee or board.

### *Annual Reports Due*

All boards and committees are asked to have their annual reports to the church office by **January 6<sup>th</sup>**. Copies of the annual reports will be available on Sunday, January 20<sup>th</sup>. The Annual Meeting is scheduled **January 27<sup>th</sup>** following the worship service.



### *Advent Devotionals Available*

December 2<sup>nd</sup> is the first Sunday of Advent. This year there are two daily devotionals available in the Narthex. "I am Mary" by Carol Howard Merritt and "Come, Lord Jesus" by the United Church of Christ Stillspeaking Writers Group. These two devotionals offer complimentary styles for reflection and prayer. Included in the "I Am Mary" devotional are short Advent Candle lighting services that you can use at home.



If you did not get a copy of either devotional, please contact Claudia Steele for assistance.

### *Lunch Bunch*

The lunch bunch meets September to June on the third Thursday of the month at 11:30 a.m. This month they will meet on **December 20<sup>th</sup>**. Founded as a gathering for retired men, it is open to anyone who wants to visit over a brown bag lunch.



### *UCW News*

On **December 7<sup>th</sup>**, we will be traveling to Emmanuel Lutheran Church, 311 Capitol Avenue, Hartford, CT, to attend the 2018 performance of its Annual St. Lucia Festival. We will be going to the second

performance of the evening at 8:00 p.m. Admission, at the door is \$5.00 for adults and

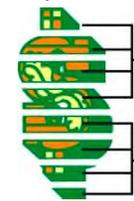


\$3.00 for children. Invite your friends and relatives. This is a chance to learn about a Swedish tradition. We will be carpooling from the church if you would like to join us. Reservations are strongly encouraged so we can alert Emmanuel as to the number of people coming. There will be a sign-up sheet on the UCW bulletin board in Fellowship Hall.

### *Trustees News*

Carroll Stearns

The preparation of the new budget continues. The board has completed their review of this year's expenditures in order to establish a basis for



## **BUDGET PLANNING**

projecting next year's needs. Employee reviews are being

completed and committees are submitting their budget requests for 2019. If any church member has a specific request for consideration, they may either bring it to a board member or raise it at the annual meeting in January.

The Trustees are looking for someone to shovel out the church and Wolcott building after each snow storm this winter. This is a paid position. The work includes clearing the front walk and steps, north and south entrances and fire escape of the church as well as the walk and ramp at the Wolcott building. Anyone interested should contact a Trustee for more information.



## *Holiday Fair Update*

Linda Dalpe, Jean Trotman

### **Helping Hands Needed for the Holiday Fair**

We need many hands to make our fair a success: young, old and in between, men, women, boys and girls. If you aren't sure how to help, contact Linda Dalpe (Fair Chairwoman), Terry Belknap (Grandma's Attic, Treasure Trove) or Jean Trotman. Some of the specific things we need help with are to:

- move completed items for the fair from the warehouse the weekend after Thanksgiving.
- set up the Fellowship Hall: tables, decorations, tagging and displaying items for sale. This is an on-going activity that lasts until we open at 5:00 pm on Friday.
- set-up for the greens workshop following church on Sunday, Nov. 25. Work on cemetery boxes will be from 1 – 5 pm.
- greens workshop will be staffed from 9-9 Monday – Thursday. Come for an hour or a day or anything in between. There is no sign-up, just come when you can. We train, so don't be bashful. Please remember to bring gloves and clippers. We will have some extras, but not enough to supply everyone.
- clean-up greens work area and set up café tables on Friday to be ready for opening Friday evening, Nov. 30 at 5:00 pm.
- clean-up and consolidate after the fair ends at 2:00 on Saturday, Dec. 1st. We will need help packing everything else up and putting it in storage. Times will be announced later.



Many folks have already volunteered to work during the fair, but we still have some gaps. Please contact Linda Dalpe or Jean Trotman if you can help, even if only for a couple of hours.

### **Raffle Tickets**

Raffle tickets are available to sign out after church. Please remember to return all unsold tickets and or stubs no later than Thursday Nov. 29. Every ticket must be accounted for according to state law. See the complete list on a separate sheet.

### **Friday Night Soup**

New to our event is our soup -dine in or take out - on Friday night. We will be serving corn chowder, and a gluten free/vegan tomato soup.

### **Old Favorites Return**

Podunk Popcorn is back! Grown by our young South Windsor farmer Dan Dzen!

Also back by popular demand are the Halladays dips and soup mixes.



### **Cutlery Orders**

Rada orders are being collected up to Sunday Dec. 2 with delivery approximately Dec. 15. Some items will be available for immediate purchase.

### **Silent Auction**

Don't forget to look at our silent auction items. We have several surprises!

### **Donation Drop Off**

Gramma's attic and Treasure Trove can now be brought directly to the Wolcott building for pricing and display. Please be sure items are clean to make the item more presentable and saleable.



### *End of the Year Contributions*

Your Annual Giving statements will be mailed during the latter part of January. In order for your contributions for 2018 to be included on your 2018 tax return, contributions must be postmarked no later than December 31, 2018.



### *Stewardship Campaign for 2018*



A reminder from Terry Belknap and Kip Dalpe. The letters are out!! Please return your pledge on Sunday, November 25<sup>th</sup>.

### *Coffee Hour Hosts Needed*

There is a need for Coffee Hour hosts for December 23<sup>rd</sup> & 30<sup>th</sup>. Please check your calendar if you are able to host on either of these dates.

The calendar for Coffee Hour Hosts for the first six months of 2019 has been posted on the bulletin board by the kitchen window. Please consult your calendar and sign up for a Sunday. If you have not hosted before, but would like to host and need some guidance, please feel free to ask one of the "regulars" to mentor you.



### *Mission News*

Mary Anne Novak

#### 'Tis the season of giving!

This year we will once again be collecting gift cards and bus passes for Interval House. They are requesting that the gift card be in increments no higher than \$25. Places that are recommended are: Stop & Shop, Shop Rite, Price Rite, Walgreens, CVS, Walmart, Target, Dunkin Donuts, Subway, McDonald's and, of course, Visa & MasterCard are welcome as well. If you are interested in helping, we will be **collecting donations up until December 16<sup>th</sup>**. Please see Mary Anne with your donations and, as always, Interval House is very grateful for your support!



#### Christmas Fund

We will hold a special collection for The Christmas Fund on **December 23<sup>rd</sup>**. The Christmas Fund provides financial assistance to retired ministers and their families in need.

#### Christmas Eve offering

This year, the Christmas Eve offering will be sent to Cornerstone Foundation of Rockville. Cornerstone Foundation has many services for the homeless, including shelter. Please consider giving to this worthy cause and help someone be warm this winter.



MERRY CHRISTMAS

### *Music Committee Notes*

Jean Jackson



- The Church Chimers took part in the service on November 11, 2018. Participants were Dash Cote, Eden and Emily Dalpe, Lilly Morse, Amanda, Eulie and Samantha McNulty, Owen, Oscar and Eric Soares.
- The organ was tuned. Two pipes were removed from the Trumpette stop and taken to the shop for further work. They will be returned in 1-2 weeks.
- The sanctuary piano will be tuned on Nov. 15.
- We will welcome Debbie Vinick's return during Advent. Many of you may remember Debbie's talent playing the harp at one of last year's Advent services.

### *Deacon's News*

Mary Crittenden

You are invited to come help decorate the church sanctuary and narthex on **Saturday Nov. 24** at 10:00. We especially want the children to take part in this. But we will have something for everyone to do. We will have carol singing and maybe a poem or two courtesy of Rev. Nina. Jean Jackson will play the piano for this. Afterward we will have a slice of pizza for you.



And then anyone that can help with fair prep will have the opportunity to lend a hand to that.

### *Worship Service and Event Cancellations*

If the weather is bad, you can check for cancellation notices of our events including Sunday morning worship service and church school, by watching WFSB TV (CBS, channel 3) or listening to WTIC (1080 AM). Notices are also posted on both the websites for WFSB news and the WTIC Storm Center. Generally, a decision to cancel worship will be made on Sunday morning around 7am. Every effort will be made to update the church answering machine, as well.



## How do you want to receive the Newsletter?

If you would like to receive the *Main Street Musing* via email, please email the church office at [firstchurchsw@gmail.com](mailto:firstchurchsw@gmail.com). This will help in production and mailing costs. Thank you. As an added bonus you will see the graphics in color.



## Book Group

The Book Group will be taking a break for the holidays and our Holiday Fair preparations. The book under discussion will be *Us Against You* by Frederik Backman, sequel to *Bear Town*. They will be meeting on **January 16<sup>th</sup>** at noon. Bring a bag lunch.

“A small community tucked deep in the forest, Beartown is home to tough, hardworking people who don't expect life to be easy or fair. No matter how difficult times get, they've always been able to take pride in their local ice hockey team. So it's a cruel blow when they hear that their town's ice hockey club might soon be disbanded. What makes it worse is the obvious satisfaction that all the former Beartown players, who now play for a rival team in the neighboring town of Hed, take in that fact. But the arrival of a newcomer gives Beartown hockey a chance at a comeback.



Soon a team starts to take shape around Amat, the fastest player you'll ever see; Benji, the intense lone wolf; always dutiful and eager-to-please Bobo; and Vidar, a born-to-be-bad troublemaker. But bringing this team together proves to be a huge challenge, especially as the town's enmity with Hed grows more and more acute as the big game approaches.”

## Blood Drive December 19<sup>th</sup>



We will be sponsoring a blood drive on December 19<sup>th</sup> from 11:00 am to 4:45 p.m. United Church Women have graciously agreed to provide goodies. Save the date. Spread the word! Watch for more details in the bulletin and on our website.

## Archivist Column

Mary Crittenden

Our pipe organ is a Hook and Hastings organ with tracker action. Just what does all that mean? First, let's look at the company that built it: The Hook and Hastings Company was started by the Hook brothers: Elias and George in 1831 and their initials were part of the original name. Over the years, the name changed several times as did the location of the factory. Frank Hastings joined the firm (1855) and, after gaining experience in all departments, became a partner. After the brothers died, Frank purchased their shares and changed the name of the company to simply Hook & Hastings, dropping the brothers' initials from the former name.

It was moved to a couple of different locations in



Boston and finally to in 1889 to Weston, Massachusetts. By 1860, the firm was the largest organ builder in the United States.

Our organ was built in 1904 and was in a church in Massachusetts before coming to us. “Exceptionally fine craftsmanship and materials were

employed in its construction. This accounts for the durability over the decades.” (From an article written about our organ many years ago.)

While we are on quality, I want to consider the fact that it is a tracker. I've read that tracker organs are expensive but their life span is at least 100+ years without major work. They will need regular tuning and occasional minor repair of reservoir leathering (every 25 to 35 years.)

Next month we will look at how a tracker organ works.

## Christian Education News

Edie Starr



WANTED: participants for the annual Christmas Tableau. If interested see Edie Starr. The tableau will be presented on the Second Sunday of Advent, December 9<sup>th</sup>.

## Church Family News



We extend our sympathy to the family and friends of Connor Zieky, who entered eternal life on Sunday, November 4th. Please keep the Zieky Nation, and Shepard families in your prayers during this time of grief and loss.

We extend our sympathy to the family and friends of Lorraine Clapp, who entered eternal life on Friday, November 9th. Her memorial service will take place at First Congregational Church of South Windsor, Saturday, December 8, 2018 at 11:00 a.m. Interment will be private preceding the service. There will be no calling hours. A luncheon reception hosted by the United Church Women will follow. Please keep the Clapp and Horsfield families in your prayers.



Chris Bombara	12/03
Linda Dalpe	12/07
Christine Virr	12/08
Liisa Whitin	12/12
David Anderson	12/14
Bruce Burnham	12/16
Katelyn Whitin	12/16
Judy Borre	12/20
Carol Mattera	12/21
Wyatt Cote	12/22
Jade Paul	12/23
Jean Trotman	12/25
Byron Smith	12/26



Gail & James Jackson	12/06
Beverly & Ray Zaugg	12/22



Joyce and Wayne Coon	Shirley Lawton
Bev Nielsen	Vibert Deane
Doris Burgdorf	Bruce Burnham
Gail & Jim Jackson	John Mitchell



Send them a note today!

Bev Nielsen	Wayne & Joyce Coon
58 Pleasant Valley Road	Arbors at Hopbrook
South Windsor, CT 06074	403 W Center Street; Apt. 316
	Manchester, CT 06040

## Food Ingathering

On the second Sunday of the month (**December 9<sup>th</sup>**) we collect items for a food pantry. Suggested items include: toiletries (soap, shaving cream, razors, toothbrushes, toothpaste, shampoo, conditioners, deodorant, hand lotion, hand sanitizer), cleaning products and paper goods, especially paper towels are needed. These items are distributed to the South Windsor Food and Fuel Bank, Manchester Area Conference of Churches and Interval House. These donations are greatly appreciated.



## Newsletter Deadline

The deadline for the January abridged edition of the newsletter is **Saturday, December 15<sup>th</sup>**. It will be printed on December 20<sup>th</sup>. This issue will be very limited in length. So please keep you "articles" very brief. Think announcement style.



## 2019 Flower Chart

The 2019 Flower Chart will be posted after December 15<sup>th</sup>. Individuals and families are welcome to sign up for flowers. Please note how the acknowledgement is to be made. Donors are responsible for ordering and arranging for flowers to be in church on Sunday. Donors may take their arrangements home following service or deliver them to one of our homebound members and friends.



## Advent Begins Sunday, Dec. 2!

What is a prophet? Who are the ancient biblical prophets who speak to us in the Advent readings this year? We will hear their words intermingled with the some of the Gospel of Luke for the four Sundays in Advent and Christmas Eve. Guest harpist Debbie Vinick returns on December 16. Join us! Please see the calendar for dates and times for regular worship and additional holiday services.



Preparing for the Christmas Season

**INSIDE THIS ISSUE**

<b>Church Committee</b> .....	2
<b>Advent Devotional</b> .....	2
<b>UCW News</b> .....	2
<b>Annual Reports Due</b> .....	2
<b>Trustees News</b> .....	2
<b>Holiday Fair</b> .....	3
<b>Stewardship News</b> .....	3
<b>Year End Contributions</b> .....	3
<b>Coffee Hour Hosts</b> .....	4
<b>Deacon's News</b> .....	4
<b>Missions News</b> .....	4
<b>Cancellation Policy</b> .....	4
<b>Music Committee News</b> .....	4
<b>CE News</b> .....	5
<b>Archivists Column</b> .....	5
<b>Advent Begins</b> .....	5
<b>Blood Drive</b> .....	5
<b>Book Group</b> .....	5
<b>Church Family News</b> .....	6
<b>Flower Chart</b> .....	6
<b>Food Baskets</b> .....	6

**SAVE THE DATE**

<b>Choir Rehearsal</b> .....	<b>Thursdays at 6:30 p.m.</b>
<b>Thanksgiving Service</b> .....	<b>Sunday, 11/25</b>
<b>Fair Setup &amp; Greens Workshop</b>	<b>Beginning 11/25</b>
<b>Holiday Fair</b> .....	<b>11/30, 5:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.</b>
<b>Holiday Fair</b> .....	<b>12/1, 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.</b>
<b>First Sunday in Advent</b> .....	<b>12/2</b>
<b>Emmanuel Lutheran St. Lucia's Celebration</b>	
<b>UCW</b> .....	<b>12/7 - 7:00 p.m.</b>
<b>All Church Pageant, Second Sunday in Advent,</b>	
<b>10 am</b> .....	<b>12/9</b>
<b>Committee Night</b> .....	<b>12/11</b>
<b>Quiet Christmas</b> .....	<b>12/13</b>
<b>Wreaths Across America</b> .....	<b>12/15</b>
<b>Guest Harpist, Third Sunday in Advent</b> ..	<b>12/16</b>
<b>Quiet Christmas</b> .....	<b>12/13</b>
<b>Blood Drive</b> .....	<b>12/19</b>
<b>Christmas Eve</b> .....	<b>12/24, 11 pm</b>

**Staff:**

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

TO:



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FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF SOUTH WINDSOR

“Once we have seen [Jesus] in a stable,  
 we can never be sure where he will appear or to what lengths he will go or  
 to what ludicrous depths of self-humiliation he will descend in his wild pursuit of men.”  
 —Frederick Buechner