

“ Give Thanks to the Lord, for He is Good; His Love Endures Forever.”
Psalm 107:1

TO:

Main Street Musing

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF SOUTH WINDSOR

November 2019

FOR ALL THE SAINTS, WE DRAW THE CIRCLE WIDE

Friends,

WOW! As you read this, some of you will be regrouping after the many preparations for our 325th Anniversary for which we give thanks to God and celebrated joyfully on October 26th. Tasks ranged from research, cleaning, decorating, and printing to creating displays and so many more that were required to prepare for this event as we honored our past and look to the future with gusto!

Congratulations to all the saints, past and present, and deep gratitude to all of you who worked so hard on the Anniversary Committee, our members and all of those who support this church in so many ways. Heartfelt thanks go out to all who took part in the service, those who came from far and wide to fete this church community, and all the gifts received and contributors. Your prayers and love are precious to us.

The joy doesn't stop here, however. There's more to come!

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SAVE THE DATE

ONA Panel	11/06
Bean Supper	11/09
Lap Quilt Dedication	11/10
Church Decorating, Carol & Pizza Party 10-12	11/30
Holiday Fair	12/6-12/7
Thanksgiving Service	11/24
..... No Sunday School	11/24
Quiet Christmas 7pm	12/12
Christmas Tableau 10am	12/15
Christmas Eve Candlelight Service 9:30pm	12/24

We have several very important events in November. I urge you all to make every effort to attend the November 6 Open and Affirming event. The ONA Committee is hosting a panel discussion/educational session about the opportunity to be an open and welcoming church to those in the LGBTQI+ community. Now's the time to get your questions answered before we vote on this at the Annual Meeting on January 26, 2020.

On Saturday, November 9, more community care shines down upon us as Jim and Kathy Kerrigan, friends of the church, provide us with a real 'Sunday dinner' experience on Saturday! Chef Jim is cooking up a delicious New England Ham and Bean Supper. Proceeds go to the South Windsor Food Bank. (Please see detailed information on both events, Veterans and Thanksgiving/Stewardship Sundays and much more inside).

For all the saints, we continue forward:

"They lived not only in ages past;
there are hundreds of thousands still.
The world is bright with the joyous saints
who love to do Jesus' will.

You can meet them in school, on the street, in the store,
in church, by the sea, in the house next door;
they are saints of God, whether rich or poor,
and I mean to be one too."

Gratefully,

Rev. Nina

(I Sing a Song of the Saints of God. The United Methodist Hymnal Number
712. Text: Lesbia Scott. Music: John H. Hopkins. Tune: GRAND
ISLE, Meter: Irr)

November 2019						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
3 Communion Sunday Deacon's Fund 10:00am Worship & Church School 11:00am Coffee hour	4	5	6 10:00am Creative Hands 6:30pm ONA Panel Discussion / Dinner	7 6:30pm Choir	8	9 Bean Supper 6:30pm
10 10:00am Worship/Veteran Quilt Dedication & Church School 11:00am Coffee hour	11 Veterans Day	12 6:30pm Church Committee	13 10:00am Creative Hands	14 6:30pm Choir	15 Newsletter Deadline	16
17 10:00am Worship & Church School 11:00am Coffee hour	18	19	20 10:00am Creative Hands	21 11:30am Lunch Bunch 6:30pm Choir	22	23
24 10:00am Worship Thanksgiving Food Ingathering / Stewardship No Church School 11:00am Coffee hour	25	26	27 10:00am Creative Hands	28 Thanksgiving Day	29 Church Office Closed	30 Decorate Church/Catrol/Pizza party 10:00am-12:00pm



Upcoming Events & Holiday Worship Services Information

Sunday November 10th – Veteran's Appreciation Service and Lap Quilt Dedication. *If you are a veteran, please contact Carrie in the church office so that we may acknowledge your dedication and service to our country.*

Sunday November 24th – Thanksgiving Worship Service/Stewardship Sunday. *We will once again be collecting food items for the South Windsor Food Bank so that others in need may have a bountiful Thanksgiving meal. No Church School.*

Saturday November 30th – Christmas Decorating – 10:00 am-12:00 pm. *Join us for a fun morning as we decorate the church for the Christmas season, sing Christmas Carols and have a pizza party sponsored by the Deacons.*

Advent Sundays – Dec 1, 8, 15, 22 - 10:00 am *Worship Advent Reflections based on the book, "All Creation Waits" by Gayle Boss. No Church School December 22.*

Thursday December 12th – Quiet Christmas Service – 7pm. *The holidays can be an overwhelming or difficult time of the year for many and Quiet Christmas provides an opportunity to take a break from the hustle & bustle of the holiday season in order to reflect and pray in a quiet, peaceful setting.*

Sunday December 15th – Children's Christmas Pageant– 10:00 am.

Tuesday December 24th – Candlelight Christmas Eve Service – 9:30 pm. *Debbie Vinick, Guest Harpist.*



Connecticut Conference
United Church of Christ
125 Sherman Street
Hartford, CT 06105-6004

October 8, 2019

The Rev. Nina Schmid
First Congregational Church of South Windsor
PO Box 165
South Windsor, CT 06074-0165

Greetings to the First Congregational Church of South Windsor in the name of Jesus Christ, who makes us One, as you celebrate of the 325th Anniversary of your church!

On this anniversary you honor the tradition that is the First Congregational Church of South Windsor. In this season of celebration, you will remember your rich history and tradition. Life in the 1600's was a great challenge for our forebears in faith and your first Pastor, Timothy Edwards: tools were primitive, even if wood was abundant; food was difficult to plan; travel was a challenge. Life in general was much more difficult than ours. I have been amazed that people for whom life was so difficult made it their highest and earliest goal to begin a church. First Congregational Church of South Windsor has a long and rich history tied to the Town of South Windsor and has continually provided a place of Worship and Sanctuary for the residents and the surrounding community. What a great heritage of faith, courage and perseverance we have received.

Over all the years of your life as a church, you have been woven into the fabric of our life as a Conference and a denomination. Because of all those who have preceded you – and because of *you* – today the First Congregational Church of South Windsor is still in ministry and mission with the whole United Church of Christ. We celebrate with you this momentous occasion not only because of your unique history but also because this is a wonderful opportunity to look to the future, which, with God's guidance and careful planning, shines so brightly. I would encourage you to be as bold and visionary and dedicated and faithful toward the future as those who founded your church.

I bring you greetings from your sisters and brothers in the other congregations of the Connecticut Conference. May God's blessings be with you as you reach out in ministry to those around you in the years to come.

Sincerely in Christ,

The Rev. Kent J. Siladi
Conference Minister



God is still speaking,

860.233.5564 toll free) 866.367.2822 fax) 860.231.8111 www.ctucc.org

Holiday Fair Update

Linda Dalpe



Holiday Fair

Upcycle/Repurpose CHALLENGE:

Find something old and ready to be thrown away. Take a picture of its current condition. Renew or re-purpose the piece and take a second picture. These items will be added to the silent auction table. We are hoping to receive 5 items to display before and after pictures. There will be a prize for the 2 pieces that bring in the most amount of money. Let Linda know if you are up to the challenge so that she can save space for you.

Helping Hands for the Holiday Fair

Below are some important UCW fair dates to keep in mind:

We need many hands to make our fair a success: young, old and in between. If you aren't sure how to help, contact Linda Dalpe (Fair Chairwoman), Terry Belknap (Grandma's Attic) or Jean Trotman.

Sunday Oct 20th - Cookie Sign Up Sheet will be posted to confirm cookies to be made for our cookie booth.

Sunday Nov 10th – 12:30 pm. Move tag sale “stuff” from warehouse to Wolcott Bldg.

Sunday Nov 17th – Fair Signage to be distributed for posting throughout town.

Sunday Nov 24th – 11:20 am. Bucket brigade to take Advent decorations and fair materials from attic to workroom. 1:00 pm Move product and staging from warehouse to lower hall, set up lower hall tables.

Sunday Dec 1st - 1pm. Begin staging / work on greens 1-5pm

Week of Dec 1st – 6th Fair Prep, Greens 9am-9pm Mon – Thurs

Fri Dec 6th 9am – 12pm clean-up/wash floor/prepare soups/set up cafe

Friday December 6th 5:00 pm – 8:00 pm FAIR OPENS

Saturday December 7th - 8:30 am Prepare for opening **9:00 am – 2:00 pm FAIR**

Clean-up and pack-up after the fair ends at 2:00 on Saturday, Dec. 7th. We will leave remaining items for sale on Sunday, Dec. 8. Then we want to inventory and pack all unsold items for storage back in the warehouse. We have also committed to completing removal of most of the display items and restoring Fellowship Hall to its pre-fair condition by the end of the day Monday, December 9th so in addition to help packing, we will need some assistance moving all items back to the warehouse.

Newsletter Deadline

The deadline for the December newsletter is **Friday, November 15th**. It will be printed on November 27th. Let's get everyone caught up on what is happening in the church.



Weekly Announcements Deadline

The deadline for the weekly bulletin announcements will be Wednesdays at noon. You may send any announcements electronically or put in the Administrative Assistant's mailbox.



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. This will help in production and mailing costs. Thank you. As an added bonus, you will see the graphics in color.

Office Hours

Office hours will be Tuesday – Friday 9am – 2pm, unless otherwise noted.

Staff:

Minister: Rev. Nina Barlow Schmid

Moderator: Terry Belknap

Organist: Kamilla Mammedova

Administrative Assistant: Carrie Morse

Sexton: Sandy Jarvis

Church Family News

Kevin Greco	11/03	Oscar Soares	11/09
Benjamin Lopata	11/04	Owen Soares	11/09
Lee Dunham	11/07	Carroll Stearns	11/18
Rev. Nina	11/09	Emily Dalpe	11/26
Becca Clark	11/09	Les Clapp	11/27
Renee Mathiau	11/09		



Leilani & Merle Dinse	11/19
Linda & Jerry Dalpe	11/20



Joyce Coon	Vibert Deane
Bev Neilsen	Avis Pelletier
Doris Burgdorf	Beverly Devren Stewart
Jim Jackson	Melody Treadwell
Lisa Horsfield	Michael Bombara
Dave Chapman	
Shirley Lawton	



Send them a note today!

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

First Congregational Church - South Windsor Holiday Fair

Celebrating our 73rd Year

December 6th & 7th, 2019

Order Form for Cemetery Boxes

Orders must be into the church

by December 1, 2019

Name _____

Address _____

Phone number _____ Email _____

PLAIN (greens, pinecones, ribbon)

Medium are \$15 per box _____ # boxes Total _____

Large are \$20 per box _____ # boxes Total _____

EMBELLISHED (greens, pinecones, ribbon, ornaments, etc.)

Medium are \$20 per box _____ # boxes Total _____

Large are \$30 per box _____ # boxes Total _____

Total enclosed _____ **Check #** _____

Orders must be accompanied with payment (make checks payable to First Congregational Church). Pre-orders may be picked up Tuesday, 12/3 to Friday, 12/6; but no later than noon on Friday, 12/6.

Pre orders are limited. First 20 orders are guaranteed. Others to be completed as time and resources allow.

Please plan ahead.

Stewardship Campaign 2020

Terry Belknap

Fall is upon us again, and I for one, love the fall weather. With fall also comes the Stewardship Campaign. This year we will again have no a “no frills” program other than maybe a stewardship moment early in November, to remind people why we need to pledge to the church. The date to remember will be November 24 as the Sunday we collect pledge cards. We encourage people to bring their pledge cards to church that Sunday. If you will not be able to be in church November 24, please use the return envelope enclosed in your pledge kit. New pledges will begin January 2020. Envelopes should be available in Fellowship Hall sometime before the end of the year. Thanks for your continued support.

NE Bean Supper

SAT, NOV. 9 – 6:30 P.M.

Community members Jim and Kathy Kerrigan have graciously offered to provide a New England “Sunday Dinner” experience for us here at the Church! This meal was inspired by conversation among friends about the loss of the “Sunday dinner” experience. It is being prepared and donated in loving memory of Jim’s grandmother, Florence Hume of Shelbourne Falls, MA – who nurtured her own church community, perfected her baked bean recipe, and then passed the love on to her many descendants. Chef Jim will be preparing the meal which will consist of ham, baked beans, coleslaw, hot dogs for the kids, and pies for dessert. Coffee, tea and water will be provided. All proceeds are to go to the South Windsor Food Bank. Chef Jim is preparing for approximately 50 meals. \$10 pp; \$25 families with young children. THANK YOU, JIM AND KATHY!

Open and Affirming

Nancy Stearns



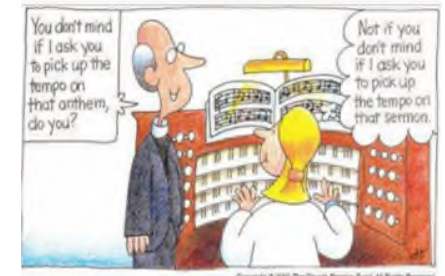
We invite everyone to join us November 6th at 6:30 for a panel discussion surrounding various LGBTQ issues. Our panelists include The Reverend Mark Abernethy of Wapping Community Church, The Reverend Robin Bird of First Congregational Church of Vernon, Organizational Consultant Elliot Altomare, and

Mayor Anthony Paterna of the Town of South Windsor. A light supper will be served.

Kamilla's Kolumn

Kamilla Mammedova

I am excited to welcome back our talented choir members after summer break. We are also so thrilled to welcome new members- Julie and Bob Reynolds. It is such a pleasure to have you in our group. Please follow us during the Sunday worship for new musical surprises.



Music Committee

Jean Jackson

Choir rehearsals have begun. All are welcome to join us on Thursdays at 6:30 pm. WELCOME to Julie and Bob Reynolds, two new additions to the choir!!



Coffee Hour Hosts Needed



Please check your calendar for when you are able to host. The calendar for Coffee Hour Hosts for 2019 is posted on the bulletin board by the kitchen window. Please consult your calendar and sign up for a Sunday to help host for the balance of the year. 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.

Food Ingathering

This month we will have a special Thanksgiving collection on Sunday, Nov 24th. Please see the list of requested items in the Missions section on page 7 of this newsletter. These items are distributed to the South Windsor Food and Fuel Bank. We continue to collect paper toweling for Interval House. These donations are greatly appreciated.



Historian's Column, cont.

This window was located directly behind the high center pulpit in our colonial meeting house built in 1761. It was preserved by Horace



Newberry (1789-1854) who saved the window when the old meeting house was dismantled in 1845 and the present structure was erected. After the death of his son, Fredrick (1845-1927), the window was returned to the church. It was exhibited in the

narthex. Others cared for and repaired it in the following years. It was placed in this location on the wall outside our pastor's study in 1983. You are able to see 3 distinctive types of glass, representing 3 of the 4 centuries of our rich history. The green tinted glass is believed to be the original glass - circa 1761. The clear glass with visible imperfections is replacement glass - circa 1850. The clear glass is modern, thought to be that which was placed in the frame as other panes broke.

A Note from Our Historian, Mary Crittenden: Thank you to all of the committee members and others who worked so hard to make the 325th Anniversary successful and special!



Mission News

Nancy Stearns and Rachel Anderson



We thank Linda Dalpe for collecting used outdoor toddler toys, storing them, and arranging for hawkwing to pick them up for use in their Toddler Town projects. Until this initiative, there were no playgrounds on the Lakota Cheyenne River reservation designated for toddler aged children.



We will continue our tradition of gathering Thanksgiving Food items to benefit families served by South Windsor Human Services. The specific items requested are included below. This special collection will take place Sunday, Nov 24th. Please include this check list with your donations to South Windsor Human Services.



Meal	Extras
<input type="checkbox"/> Soup	<input type="checkbox"/> Coffee
<input type="checkbox"/> Canned Fruit/Fresh Fruit	<input type="checkbox"/> Tea
<input type="checkbox"/> Stuffing Mix	<input type="checkbox"/> Flour
<input type="checkbox"/> Gravy Mix	<input type="checkbox"/> Sugar
<input type="checkbox"/> Applesauce	<input type="checkbox"/> Evaporated Milk
<input type="checkbox"/> Canned or Fresh Vegetables	<input type="checkbox"/> Peanut Butter
<input type="checkbox"/> Instant Potatoes	<input type="checkbox"/> Jelly
<input type="checkbox"/> Pie Crust/Pie Filling/Dessert Mix	<input type="checkbox"/> Fluff
<input type="checkbox"/> Juice	<input type="checkbox"/> Raisins
<input type="checkbox"/> Bread Mix	<input type="checkbox"/> Oatmeal
<input type="checkbox"/> Cookies	<input type="checkbox"/> Peanuts or Nuts
<input type="checkbox"/> \$15 Turkey Gift Certificates	<input type="checkbox"/> Canned Hams

Deacon News

Kip Dalpe

Thank you to all of the Deacons for their continued hard work and dedication. If you are interested in becoming a Deacon in 2020, please contact me. We would love to have you join us!

Church Committee

Jean Jackson, Church Clerk

- Treasurer's report for September - Expenses were \$26,353.94. Income was \$29,063.40. Cash on hand is \$5,311.71. Surplus for September is \$2,709.46; deficit for the year-to-date is \$5,703.84. Lee noted that funds were withdrawn from the Trust account to cover payroll and expenses.
 - The investment value increased by \$48,426.00 in September. \$25,204.00 was withdrawn to cover expenses, resulting in a net gain of \$23,222.00. The end of September balance stood at \$1,725,302.48.
- The Annual Meeting date was set for Sunday, January 26, 2020, following the service. A lite lunch will be served. Mark your calendars for this important event.
- The next meeting is November 12, 2019. All are welcome to attend, whether or not you serve on a committee.



2019 Flower Chart

The 2019 Flower Chart is posted on the bulletin board in Fellowship Hall. Individuals and families are welcome to sign up to provide 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.



Lunch Bunch

The lunch bunch meets September to June on the third Thursday of the month at 11:30 a.m. See you on November 21st.



Historian's Column

Mary Crittenden

This month we are looking at the stained-glass memorial window next to the one for Timothy Edwards. This is the Pentecost Window in memory of George Otis Clapp. His life spanned the years from 1816 to 1897. While it is a memorial window honoring George O. Clapp, the symbols in it are also commemorating Pentecost when the flames of the Holy Spirit descended on the assembled followers of Jesus. Thus, we find nine stylized flames representing the fruit of the Holy Spirit.

The Fruit of the Holy Spirit: (Paul says fruit as the individual graces are not isolated but interconnected).



It is perhaps not too artificial to point out that we have here three triads of which the first describes the life of the Spirit in its deepest secret; the second, the same life in its manifestations to humankind; and the third, that life in relation to the difficulties of the world, and of ourselves. [Pictured in the window as three rows of flames]

The first of these three triads include: **love, joy, and peace**. They regard nothing but God and our relation to God;

The second triad is **long-suffering, kindness, goodness**. All these three obviously refer to the spiritual life in its manifestations to humankind.

The third triad--**faithfulness, meekness, and temperance**--seems to point to the world in which the Christian life is to be lived as a scene of difficulties and oppositions. (*The Rev. Arthur Dunham*)

The scallop shell is a symbol of Baptism, the bell shapes represents Joy and the red flowers are pomegranate.

Long term members will readily recall that Talcott and Lorraine Clapp usually sat in the pew by the Clapp window. Talcott was related to George O. If I have correctly constructed their lineage from Ancestry.com we find that Talcott and George O. were first cousins twice removed.