



THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF DARIEN

United Church of Christ
14 Brookside Road, Darien, CT 06820
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www.uccdarien.org



FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

February 5, 2017

8:30 a.m. and 10:00 a.m.

**One person
can ~~only~~ do
so much**

FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

February 5, 2017

8:30 a.m. and 10:00 a.m.

Children are always welcome at our worship services.

A drop-off Nursery is available to children age 2 and younger,
in the Nursery School wing starting at 9:45 a.m.

**Those who are able are invited to stand.*

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Dale Rosenberger, Senior Minister

PASSING OF THE PEACE

*HYMN

“THIS IS A DAY OF NEW BEGINNINGS”

UNISON

1. This is a day of new be - gin - nings,
2. For by the life and death of Je - sus,
3. Then let us, with the Spir - it's dar - ing,
4. In faith we gath - er round the ta - ble

time to re - mem - ber and move on,
God's might - y Spir - it, now as then,
step from the past and leave be - hind
to taste and share what love can do.

(cont'd)

THIS IS A DAY OF NEW BEGINNINGS (cont'd)

The image shows a musical score for a hymn. It consists of two systems of music, each with a treble and bass staff. The key signature is B-flat major (two flats). The first system has a 3/4 time signature. The lyrics are: "time to be - lieve what love is bring - ing, can make for us a world of dif - ference, our dis - ap - point - ment, guilt, and griev - ing, This is a day of new be - gin - nings;". The second system has a 4/4 time signature. The lyrics are: "lay - ing to rest the pain that's gone. as faith and hope are born a - gain. seek - ing new paths, and sure to find. our God is mak - ing all things new.". There are repeat signs in the second system, with first and second endings marked "1-3" and "4".

time to be - lieve what love is bring - ing,
can make for us a world of dif - ference,
our dis - ap - point - ment, guilt, and griev - ing,
This is a day of new be - gin - nings;

lay - ing to rest the pain that's gone.
as faith and hope are born a - gain.
seek - ing new paths, and sure to find.
our God is mak - ing all things new.

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

With steadfast love and growing faith,

we come as the people of Christ.

With prayers of hope and songs of joy,

we come to worship God, the eternal and ever-loving.

With thankful hearts and humble prayers,

we come to give God glory and praise.

All: We gather here together as people of faith and hope to celebrate the sweet gladness of life in Jesus.

***OPENING PRAYER**

Mr. Gary M. Morello, Associate Minister

***LORD'S PRAYER**

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

***GLORIA PATRI**



Glo-ry be to the Fa-ther, and to the Son, and to the Ho-ly Ghost; As it was in the be-
gin-ning, is now, and ev - er shall be, world with-out end. A - men. A - men

CHILDREN'S DISMISSAL (10:00 only)

JOYS AND CONCERNS

MOMENT OF SILENCE

OLD TESTAMENT READING

ISAIAH 58:1-9

Bill Lattimer, Deacon (8:30)
Frank Burke, Deacon (10:00)

Shout out, do not hold back!
Lift up your voice like a trumpet!
Announce to my people their rebellion,
to the house of Jacob their sins.
Yet day after day they seek me
and delight to know my ways,
as if they were a nation that practiced righteousness
and did not forsake the ordinance of their God;
they ask of me righteous judgements,
they delight to draw near to God.
'Why do we fast, but you do not see?
Why humble ourselves, but you do not notice?'

(continued)

ISAIAH 58:1-9 (*continued*)

Look, you serve your own interest on your fast-day,
and oppress all your workers.

Look, you fast only to quarrel and to fight
and to strike with a wicked fist.

Such fasting as you do today
will not make your voice heard on high.

Is such the fast that I choose,
a day to humble oneself?

Is it to bow down the head like a bulrush,
and to lie in sackcloth and ashes?

Will you call this a fast,
a day acceptable to the Lord?

Is not this the fast that I choose:
to loose the bonds of injustice,
to undo the thongs of the yoke,
to let the oppressed go free,
and to break every yoke?

Is it not to share your bread with the hungry,
and bring the homeless poor into your house;
when you see the naked, to cover them,
and not to hide yourself from your own kin?


Then your light shall break forth like the dawn,
and your healing shall spring up quickly;
your vindicator shall go before you,
the glory of the Lord shall be your rearguard.

Then you shall call, and the Lord will answer;
you shall cry for help, and he will say, Here I am.


***HYMN**

“STRONG SON OF GOD, IMMORTAL LOVE” (*next page/omit verse 3*)

STRONG SON OF GOD, IMMORTAL LOVE (omit verse 3)



1 Strong Son of God, im - mor - tal Love, Whom we, that
2 Thou wilt not leave us in the dust; Thou mad - est
3 Thou seem - est hu - man and di - vine, The high - est,
4 Our lit - tle sys - tems have their day; They have their



have not seen thy face, By faith, and faith a - lone, em -
man, he knows not why. He thinks he was not made to
ho - liest man - hood, thou. Our wills are ours, we know not
day and cease to be; They are but bro - ken lights of



brace, Be - liev - ing where we can - not prove,
die; And thou hast made him, thou art just.
how; Our wills are ours to make them thine.
thee, And thou, O Lord, art more than they. A - men.

5 We have but faith; we cannot know,
For knowledge is of things we see;
And yet we trust it comes from thee,
A beam in darkness; let it grow.

6 Let knowledge grow from more to more,
But more of reverence in us dwell;
That mind and soul, according well,
May make one music as before.

GOSPEL LESSON

MATTHEW 5:13-20

Rev. Rosenberger

‘You are the salt of the earth; but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything, but is thrown out and trampled underfoot.

‘You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hidden. No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.

‘Do not think that I have come to abolish the law or the prophets; I have come not to abolish but to fulfil. For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth pass away, not one letter, not one stroke of a letter, will pass from the law until all is accomplished. Therefore, whoever breaks one of the least of these commandments, and teaches others to do the same, will be called least in the kingdom of heaven; but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.

SERMON

“WHAT DIFFERENCE CAN WE MAKE?”

Rev. Rosenberger

OFFERTORY

“ONE BREAD, ONE BODY”

John Foley

(10:00 only)

Senior Choir

***DOXOLOGY** *(10:00 only)*

Praise God from whom all bless - ings flow; Praise God, all crea-tures here be - low; Praise
 God a - bove, ye heav'n - ly host; Praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. A - men.

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION** *(unison) (10:00 only)*

In the name of Jesus, who emptied himself for us, we pour out our gratitude in these symbols of commitment. In joyful obedience, we give as we have been blessed. We want to participate with our Creator in reaching out to sisters and brothers who have not expected God’s care. We offer our lives in humble gratitude to you, amazing, majestic God. Amen.

CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

INVITATION

CALL TO PRAYER

(Leader) The Lord be with you.

(Congregation) And also with you.

(Leader) Lift up your hearts.

(Congregation) We lift them up to the Lord.

(Leader) Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

(Congregation) It is right to give God thanks and praise.

***SANCTUS**

“HOLY, HOLY, HOLY”

*Holy, holy, holy. My heart, my heart adores you!
My heart knows how to say to you: Holy are you, Lord!*

PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

SHARING OF THE BREAD AND CUP

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING (*unison*)

Lord Jesus Christ, we offer our thanks for what you have given us in this bread and cup. Fed and renewed by your life in us - we go now to share that life with others. Send us forth equipped with the power of your Spirit to spread the message of your love and compassion to all whom we meet. Amen.

***HYMN**

“O FOR A THOUSAND TONGUES TO SING”

(*next page*)

***BENEDICTION**

Rev. Rosenberger

POSTLUDE

* * *

O FOR A THOUSAND TONGUES TO SING

1 O for a thousand tongues to sing My great Re-deem-er's praise,
2 My gra-cious Mas-ter and my God, As-sist me to pro-claim,
3 Glo-ry to God and praise and love Be-ev-er, ev-er given

The glo-ries of my God and King, The tri-umphs of his grace!
To spread through all the earth a-broad The hon-ors of thy name.
By saints be-low and saints a-bove, The Church in earth and heaven. A-men.

The image shows a musical score for the hymn 'O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing'. It consists of four staves. The first staff is a treble clef with a key signature of three flats (B-flat, E-flat, A-flat) and a 3/2 time signature. It contains the melody for the first line of lyrics. The second staff is a bass clef with the same key signature and time signature, providing a harmonic accompaniment. The third staff is a treble clef with the same key signature and time signature, containing the melody for the second and third lines of lyrics. The fourth staff is a bass clef with the same key signature and time signature, providing a harmonic accompaniment for the second and third lines of lyrics. The lyrics are printed below the staves.

TODAY'S USHERS are Frank Burke, Karalesa DiFabio, Gary Holmes and Bill Lattimer (8:30).

CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

2017 OFFERING ENVELOPES

If you made a pledge for 2017, your Offering Envelopes are available for pick-up and can be found on the table, outside the church office. If you do not see envelopes with your name, and would like offering envelopes, please contact Karen Hansen at KHansen@uccdarien.org.

NIGHT OWLS

This month we will have a heart healthy dinner prepared by Susan Wilson, Molly Watson and Wyn Lydecker. We will meet next Wednesday, February 8 at 6:30 at Susan's house (Consider car pooling if possible.)

Please RSVP to me by Monday, February 6 if you can attend. BYOB and \$5.00 to cover their costs for the meal.

Debbie Nelson

dcnelson@optonline.net

203-655-4883

CLASSICS BOOK GROUP

The Classics Book Group will meet on Wednesday, February 22nd at 3:30 in the library. We will be talking about All the King's Men by Robert Penn Warren. It's an open, friendly group. Call Sally Bassler to know more or surprise us!

On Sunday, February 5th we will have an 11th hour discussion of Henri Nouwen's book, Life of the Beloved. A follow-up to our experience of reaffirming our baptism's promise that we are God's beloved children, this book will guide us on the path to becoming who we are. Copies are available at the church office, for \$10.

KNITTING MINISTRY:

The Knitting Ministry will break out their needles on February 12 at 11am in the Morehouse Room. Bring your knitting, crochet projects, needlepoint, and join us for fiber and fellowship. New needle crafters are especially welcome. There is nothing like a little yarn therapy to get you through these trying times.

For more information, contact Lora Grassilli loragrass@gmail.com

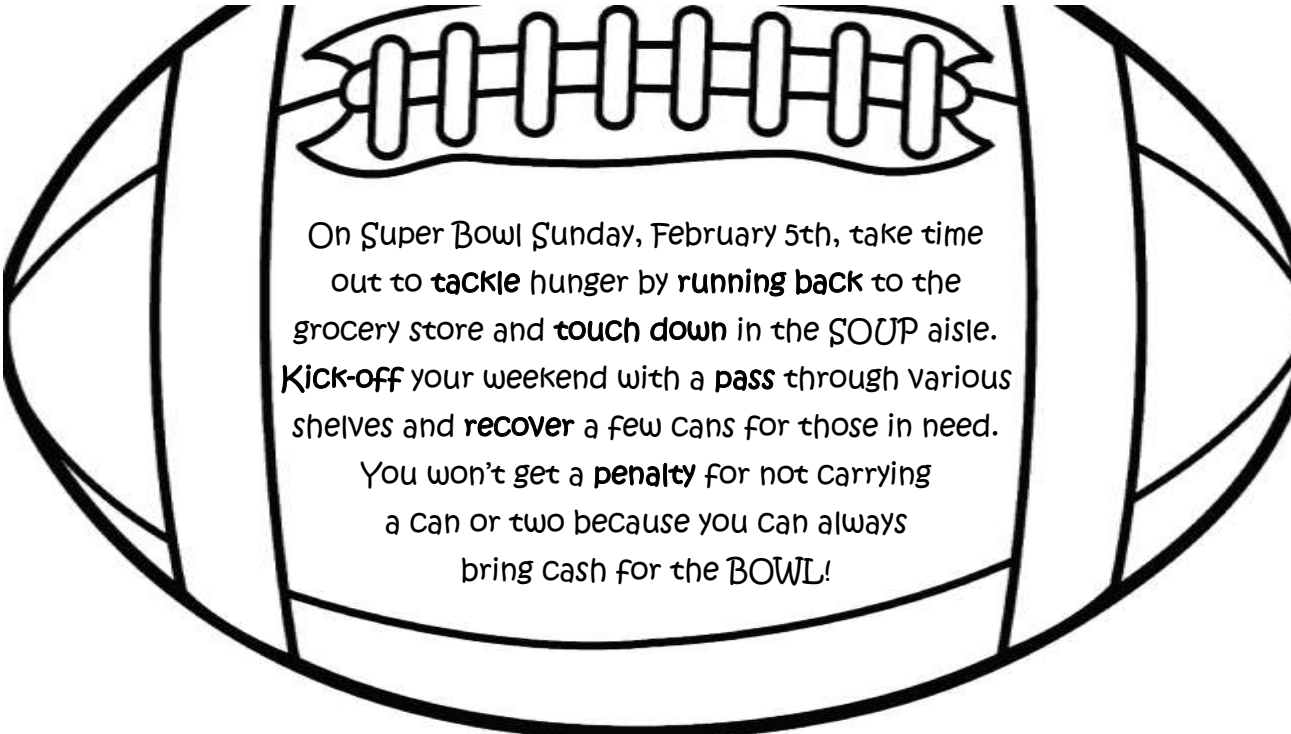
COMMUNITY EVENTS

Please join **Young Life Darien** for the 2nd Annual Winter Luncheon featuring author Rev. Dr. Heather Wright speaking about Sacred Stress on Thursday, February 9, 2017, 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m., at Woodway Country Club, Darien.

Please reply to Jennifer Van Ingen, jenlvi@optonline.net or [203-246-0444](tel:203-246-0444).

The Darien Domestic Abuse Council, Inc. brings the Yellow Dress to Darien to raise awareness and educate our community about Teen Dating Violence and Domestic Abuse. The Darien Library will sponsor this event on Thursday, February 9th, at 7pm. All are welcome to attend.

“Soup or Bowl” kicks off
the 1,000 Pound Food Challenge!!
It’s that time of year again!



On Super Bowl Sunday, February 5th, take time out to **tackle** hunger by **running back** to the grocery store and **touch down** in the **SOUP** aisle. **Kick-off** your weekend with a **pass** through various shelves and **recover** a few cans for those in need. You won't get a **penalty** for not carrying a can or two because you can always bring cash for the **BOWL!**

Our **SOUP** or **BOWL** event coincides with **FOOD FIRST** and kicks off our 2nd annual **1,000 POUND FOOD CHALLENGE** – so if soup isn't your thing, feel free to bring what you can for those in need (e.g., non-perishable food items: pasta, pasta sauce, canned vegetables and fruits, peanut butter, tuna fish, rice, beans and the occasional cake mix & icing for special occasions). The clock is ticking and the play is on. Help us **win the bowl** by getting to 1,000 pounds by the end of March! Donations will go to the Open Door Shelter and the Person-to-Person pantry, both of which suffer from lower donations during the cold winter months when people need it most.

Thank you from the Outreach Committee!



Midnight Run Collection Has Begun:
Look for the Marked Donation Boxes in the Library

On Saturday, April 1, members of our congregation and Youth Group will be heading into NYC to bring food, clothing, and personal care items to the homeless living on the streets. We are asking for the entire congregation to help with our collection efforts. Here's how you can participate:

- Church School families are being asked to collect personal care items such as toothbrushes, toothpaste, washcloths, soap, deodorant, shampoo, lip balm and tissue packages. Details are being sent out to all via e-mail. If you are unsure what your child is supposed to collect, please contact MJ Colman.
- We need LOTS of men's clothing, specifically in this order: durable pants like blue jeans or sweatpants (large sizes preferred); socks (tube socks, white or dark); men's briefs (jockey style, sizes 32 to 42); sweatshirts, and long-sleeve shirts (large and extra-large, dark colors preferred); and T-shirts (medium to extra-large).
- We need just a few of the same items for women. Typically, we'll clothe 60-65 men and about 10 women during the evening.
- NEW this year: We would like to give everyone who comes out a recyclable shopping bag to carry food and clothing home. If you have bags to spare, please consider donating. These will work better than paper grocery bags used in the past.

You are more than welcome to clean out your closet and bring items in that are in clean and good condition. Please do not use this as an opportunity to give us everything in your closet you don't want.

If you are out and about at Walmart, Kohl's, or Target, look for deals and pick up a few new items to donate (especially new socks and underwear).

Don't have time to shop? No problem, our youth will happily do it for you! Simply give your donation to Gary Morello or Karen Brennan and they'll get the youth organized and looking for deals. We can make \$25 go a long way at Walmart!

Questions? Please contact our Midnight Run organizers, Gary Morello and Karen Brennan.

***CALLING ALL CHURCH SCHOOL KIDS!
PLEASE JOIN US AT CHURCH SCHOOL
ON FEBRUARY 12th, 2017
FOR OUR 1ST ANNUAL***



**HOSTED BY OUR VERY OWN TEEN JEOPARDY
STAR...**



MICHAEL BORECKI!

***TEST YOUR BIBLICAL KNOWLEDGE!
COMPETE WITH YOUR FRIENDS!
PRIZES! SNACKS! AND MORE!***

THE BOARD OF CHRISTIAN OUTREACH

has a full schedule of events planned to help those in need. Please help!

- **Habitat for Humanity Build Days** in Bridgeport - FCCD is invited to join The Sound Coalition of Churches in Fairfield to help build on the following dates during 2017: 2/18, 4/8, 7/8, 8/26, 10/21 and 12/9. No experience needed! Just come with willing hands and heart!

Helpers (16 or older) will meet at the warehouse by 8:30 am, and be done by 4. Please email Heather Raker at hraker@me.com to help.

- **Soup or Bowl kicks off our 2nd annual 1,000 pound food challenge** - Sunday, February 5th. Bring your food donations on Sunday, February 5th as we kick off our 1,000 pound challenge. Let's reach the goal line by the end of March!! Non-perishable food items appreciated: pasta, pasta sauce, canned vegetables and fruits, peanut butter, tuna fish, rice & beans. Donations will go to the Open Door Shelter and the Person-to-Person pantry, both of which suffer from lower donations during the cold winter months when people need it most. The clock is ticking and the play is on!

- **Mission Moment** - On Sunday, February 12, we welcome Jeanette Archer-Simons from the **Open Door Shelter** for a brief "mission moment". She will tell us about the great work that Open Door is doing to help those in need in Norwalk through their new 19,000 square foot housing facility. The Open Door Shelter will be the lead beneficiary of the 2017 Darien House Tour: Homes with Heart.

Mark your calendars for upcoming events held by our Outreach Beneficiaries!

Grab some friends and GO and SUPPORT our fabulous friends!

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY Havana Nights - Saturday, February 25, 2017, 6:30 to 11:00 pm at Fairfield Theater Company Warehouse, 70 Sanford Street, Fairfield. More info at habitatcfc.org.

PACIFIC HOUSE Dessert and Chocolate Lovers Tasting - Friday, March 31, 2017, 7 to 10 pm at the Hyatt in Greenwich. More info at pacifichouse.org.

INSPIRICA Spring Soiree - Thursday April 20, 2017, 5:30 to 7:30 pm at The Palace Theater, 61 Atlantic Street, Stamford. More info at inspiricact.org.

Thank you for your hands on help for those in need!

The First Congregational Church of Darien Board of Outreach

Chair: Heather Raker, Vice Chair: Anna Denoyer, Members: Gayle Appleby, Lindsay Atha, Scott Barrett, Tracey Berry, Elmerina Brooks, Annette Madden-Kline, Bob McGee, Charlie Wetmore, Carol Wilson, Lauren Swenson

“Music at First” NEWS:

Next “Show Up and Sing” Sunday: Feb 12

For all those who like to sing but need a guiding hand, please **meet in the chapel at 9:00 am (come in through the Nursery School entrance)**, and you will learn a simple anthem and then sing it with gusto at the 10 am service. With Dan Hague’s good instruction and the choir supporting you, you will lift your voice and spirit!

Fat/Jazz Sunday: Feb 26

A Dixieland celebration of being back in our beloved Meetinghouse.

We will thank God for our restored and refreshed Meetinghouse, rededicate our sanctuary for worship, and celebrate our new hymnals and pew cushions. We will raise our voices in song, tap our feet, and clap our hands in joyful gratefulness. Then we will eat our fill of delicious southern-style food in the Parish Hall.

“Alt Music Sunday”: March 12

Something a little different than the choir singing...perhaps an instrumentalist...perhaps Dan will teach us a new hymn. Always inspirational and appropriate for worship, get ready for some alternative music.

Cabaret Night, March 18

Invite your family and friends for our annual Cabaret Night. You will enjoy some good songs performed by our church’s own talent in a relaxed club-style setting with light food and drink. Look for a sign-up sheet in the Parish Hall. A free-will donation will be taken to cover costs.

For more information on the music program, contact Mariann Bigelow (bigelow3@optonline.net) or John Stuart (johnstuartmktg@optonline.net)

WELCOME TO THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF DARIEN

**"Where God's extravagant love welcomes and affirms,
where Christ's transforming truth enlivens and compels."**

We are an accepting community where faith in Christ makes a difference. We welcome you to worship with us wherever you are on your journey. As a spiritual home, our hallmarks are education, fellowship and pastoral care. Children have a special place in our church family, and are embraced with love, guidance and opportunities for spiritual growth. We are a church of conscience, unafraid of the issues of today and serving as a reconciling force among different faiths.

CHURCH CALENDAR

TODAY

11th hour book discussion on "Life of the Beloved", Morehouse Room
Confirmation Class, 11:15, Dream Room

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 6

Board of Christian Education, 7:30 in the Admin Wing Mtg. Room

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 7

Board of Christian Outreach, 7:30 p.m. in the Morehouse Room

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 9

Bible Study, 9:30 a.m. in the Morehouse Room
Senior Choir, 8:00 p.m.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 12

Worship Services at 8:30 a.m. and 10:00 a.m.

Ministers: Every member of the congregation.

Clergy and Staff:

The Rev. Dale Rosenberger, *Senior Minister (emergency pager) 1- (203) 368-7789*

Gary M. Morello, *Associate Minister*

The Rev. Ronald T. Evans, *Pastor Emeritus*

Mary Jo Colman, *Church School Director*

Daniel Hague, *Music Director* Maxim Pakhomov, *Organist*

Teri Manning, *Nursery School Director* Karen Hansen, *Treasurer*

Pamela Toason, *Church Administrator (M, T)* Dennis Hanlon, *Church Administrator (W, Th, Fri)*

Carlos Maya, *Weekday Sexton* Ruth Salazar, *Sunday Sexton*