



THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF DARIEN

United Church of Christ
14 Brookside Road, Darien, CT 06820
Phone: 203-655-0491 Fax: 203-655-7620
E-mail: info@uccdarien.org
www.uccdarien.org



FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER
April 17, 2016 – 8:30 a.m. and 10:00 a.m.



FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER
April 17, 2016 – 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

Mr. Maxim Pakhomov

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Dale Rosenberger, Pastor

PASSING OF THE PEACE

***HYMN #195**

“ALL HAIL THE POWER OF JESUS’ NAME”

***CALL TO WORSHIP** (responsively)

Mr. Gary Morello, Associate Minister

Gather, all witnesses of God's gracious deliverance,
that together we might embrace the world's salvation.

Let us fall on our knees and worship our God.

Gather, all who would dare to live in such a way that
we would speak and embody God’s salvation unto all.

Let us wipe every tear from the world's eyes.

**(All uniting) Salvation is not our doing. Salvation belongs to God!
We shall dwell with God eternally, who shall unite us beyond death.**

***OPENING PRAYER**

***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)

MISSION MOMENT *(10:00 only)*

Eliot Brenner, Ph.D.

President and CEO of the Child Guidance Center of Southern Connecticut

JOYS AND CONCERNS

MOMENT OF SILENCE

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON

REVELATION 7:9-17
(page 249 NRSV)

Bill Lattimer, Deacon (8:30)
Mary Ann Freeman, Deacon (10:00)

***HYMN #192**

“THE DAY OF RESURRECTION”

GOSPEL LESSON

JOHN 10:22-30
(page 104 NSRV)

Rev. Rosenberger

SERMON

“HOW DO YOU GET YOUR NAME ON THAT GUEST LIST?”

Rev. Rosenberger

STATEMENT OF FAITH
United Church of Christ

We believe in God, the Eternal Spirit, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ and our God,
to whose deeds we testify:

God calls the worlds into being
creates us in the divine image,
and sets before us the ways of life and death.

God seeks in holy love to save all people
from aimlessness and sin.

God judges all people and all nations by that righteous will
declared through prophets and apostles.

In Jesus Christ, the man of Nazareth, our crucified and risen Lord,
God has come to us
and shared our common lot,
conquering sin and death
and reconciling the world to the Creator.

The Holy Spirit has descended upon us,
creating and renewing the church of Jesus Christ
binding in covenant faithful people of all ages, tongues, and races.

God calls us into the Church
to accept the cost and joy of discipleship
to be God's servants in the service of others,
to proclaim the Gospel to all of the world
and resist the powers of evil,
to share in Christ's baptism and eat at his table,
to join him in his passion and victory.

God promises to all who witness in faith,
forgiveness of sins and fullness of grace,
courage in the struggle for justice and peace,
God's holy presence in trial and rejoicing,
and eternal life in that realm which has no end.

Blessing and honor, glory and power be unto God. Amen.

OFFERTORY
(10:00 only)

PSALM 23
Senior Choir

Heinrich Schalit

***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** (10:00 only)

(unison)

Make this moment of commitment a feast of dedication to your purposes among us, O God. Give us our bearings from the risen Christ, our reference point at the center of life, in this life and the life to come. May we serve you with our offerings and with the giving of gifts you place at our disposal, rising up into a lifelong call. Amen.

***HYMN**

“GIVE THANKS FOR LIFE”

(page 6)

***BENEDICTION**

Rev. Rosenberger

POSTLUDE

* * *

TODAY'S GREETERS are the DiFabio Family.

TODAY'S USHERS are Lou Converse, Mary Ann Freeman, Bill Lattimer (8:30), Brad Westbrook.

MUSIC NOTES: “Give Thanks for Life” Words: Shirley Erena Murray, 1986. Music: Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1906. Copyright ©1987.
Used with Permission by Hope Publishing Co., license # 2769556.

CHURCH SCHOOL NOTES: Block Sunday, “The Transfiguration” - Matthew 17:1-13, Gods changes can be surprising.

GIVE THANKS FOR LIFE

Unison



1. Give thanks for life, the meas-ure of our days,
2. Give thanks for those who made their life a light
3. And for our own, our liv - ing and our dead,
4. Give thanks for hope, that like the wheat, the grain



mor - tal, we pass through beau - ty that de - cays, yet
caught from the Christ - flame, burst - ing through the night, who
thanks for the love by which our life is fed, a
ly - ing in dark - ness, does its life re - tain in



sing to God our hope, our love, our praise,
touched the truth, who burned for what is right,
love not changed by time or death or dread,
res - ur - rec - tion to grow green a - gain.



Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!



TODAY'S MISSION MOMENT:

Today we welcome Eliot Brenner, Ph. D., the new President and CEO of the Child Guidance Center of Southern Connecticut, for our Mission Moment. The First Congregational Church of Darien Outreach Board is proud to support this worthwhile organization.

Child Guidance Center Mission

The Child Guidance Center of Southern Connecticut is dedicated to reducing emotional suffering and dysfunctional behavior, strengthening families, and helping each child and adolescent achieve his or her highest potential.

We provide specialized outpatient services to children and adolescents to treat psychological, behavioral, developmental, social and family problems in a professionally staffed mental health facility and at homes, schools and other community locations.

CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

Come to the Cabaret!

An Intimate Evening of Music

Saturday, April 23rd - 7:30pm



BOARD OF CHRISTIAN OUTREACH

Open Door Shelter: (a/k/a – Norwalk Emergency Shelter)

We will be cooking on Thursday, April 21st at 8:00 am at the church and serving on Friday, April 22nd at 11:45 am at the Open Door Shelter in Norwalk.

If interested in joining either of these opportunities or both – please contact Heather Raker at: HRaker@me.com

Habitat for Humanity:

The Board of Outreach has arranged for another “Build Day for FCCD” (children can attend but must be 16 or older – we will help arrange babysitting for those folks with young ones that want to help!) We will be building for **Habitat for Humanity in Bridgeport on Saturday May 7th from 8:30 am to 3:30 pm.** If interested in assisting, please contact Heather Raker at: HRaker@me.com. Nothing required but a can-do attitude!!

Person-to-Person Postal Drive

Annual event here in Darien that helps to fill the pantries at the Person to Person locations in both Darien & Norwalk.

We will be picking up and sorting food for the **Person-to-Person Postal Drive on Saturday May 14th.** There will be two shifts to sign up for (10:00 – 12:00pm & 12:00pm - 2:00pm).

There will be a sponsored Hot Dog lunch at P2P starting at about 12:00pm.

Perfect event for the whole family to be involved.

We will be sending out a sign up genius - soon so keep on the look-out!

Email Lindsay Atha with any questions at lindsayatha@gmail.com

Save the Dates:

Darien House Tour: House Tour: June 2nd, 2016

House Tour Party: June 3rd, 2016

Art With Heart!: June 4th, 2016

Proceeds to benefit; **Darien’s “Thriving Youth Initiative”** which is the Community Fund of Darien’s new program that seeks to address the issues of youth mental health in our community.

We are still in the organizing stages and Silent Auction items are always welcome! Please contact Heather Raker: HRaker@me.com or Anna Denoyer: anna.denoyer@gmail.com.

First Congregational Church of Darien Presents:



DEAR FAMILY & FRIENDS,
Join us for our Sunday afternoon Worship Services on
April 24, May 15, June 19.

We know that traditional Sunday morning worship doesn't work for everyone so we will be offering a Come As You Are worship service in Parish Hall at 4:30 p.m.!

Key elements of the service include:

A casual and more contemporary worship service, lasting about 45 minutes.

Designed for people of all ages, from teens and young adults, to families with young children and empty-nesters. Led by our Associate Minister Gary M. Morello, with a short message and a combination of contemporary music, familiar hymns, upbeat choruses and prayerful songs.

June 2, 2016

the darien house tour
HOMES WITH HEART

(tickets now on sale!!)



The 2016 Darien House Tour: Homes with Heart will feature six fabulous Darien homes on Thursday, June 2, 2016. A June 3rd Celebratory Party will follow with food + drink + music + silent auction = fun.

Art with Heart will feature local artists with work for purchase during the tour and at a June 4th event.

The tour will support local charitable organizations, in particular our lead beneficiary, *The Thriving Youth Initiative* of The Community Fund of Darien.

The Darien House Tour: Homes with Heart is presented by The First Congregational Church of Darien. Each year, the church grants over \$100,000 to non-profit organizations serving our youth, the elderly and the disadvantaged.

A CALL TO THE ANNUAL MEETING

YOU ARE HEREBY CALLED TO THE
“ANNUAL MEETING: PART II–PROGRAMS”
OF
THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF DARIEN,
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST.

This meeting is scheduled for Sunday, May 15, 2016
immediately following our 10:00 a.m. service of worship.

The purpose of this congregational meeting is to:

- * receive the 2016 nominating reports,
- * receive committee program reports, and
- * address any other business or concern relating to the life of our parish,
which may properly be brought before the assembled congregation.

Childcare will be provided during the meeting.

Constance Moore, Clerk



CHURCH CALENDAR

MONDAY, APRIL 18

Bell Choir, 4:30 p.m. in the Morehouse Room

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 20

Church Council, 8:00 p.m.

THURSDAY, APRIL 21

Cooking for the Open Door Shelter, 8:30 a.m.

Bible Study, 9:30 a.m.

Confirmation Class Desert, 7:00 p.m. in Parish Hall

Senior Choir, 8:00 p.m.

FRIDAY, APRIL 22

Serving at the Open Door Shelter, 11:30 a.m.

SATURDAY, APRIL 23

Cabaret, 7:30 p.m. in Parish Hall

SUNDAY, APRIL 24

Worship Service at 8:30 a.m.

Worship Service at 10:00 a.m. (Confirmation Sunday)

“Come As You Are” Worship Service, 4:30 p.m.

Ministers: Every member of the congregation.

Clergy and Staff:

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

Mr. Gary 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*