



THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF DARIEN

United Church of Christ
14 Brookside Road, Darien, CT 06820
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E-mail: info@uccdarien.org
www.uccdarien.org



Confirmation SUNDAY

APRIL 26, 2015

8:30 A.M. AND 10:00 A.M.



CONFIRMATION SUNDAY

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Children are always welcome at our worship services.

For parents that wish to remain with their children,
the church Library has a live audio feed of the worship service.

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

PRELUDE

Mr. Maxim Pakhomov

WELCOME

The Rev. Dale Rosenberger

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PASSING OF THE PEACE

*HYMN #29

“NOW THANK WE ALL OUR GOD”

*CALL TO WORSHIP

(responsively)

Sisters and brothers in Christ,
Through the sacrament of baptism
We are initiated into Christ’s holy church.

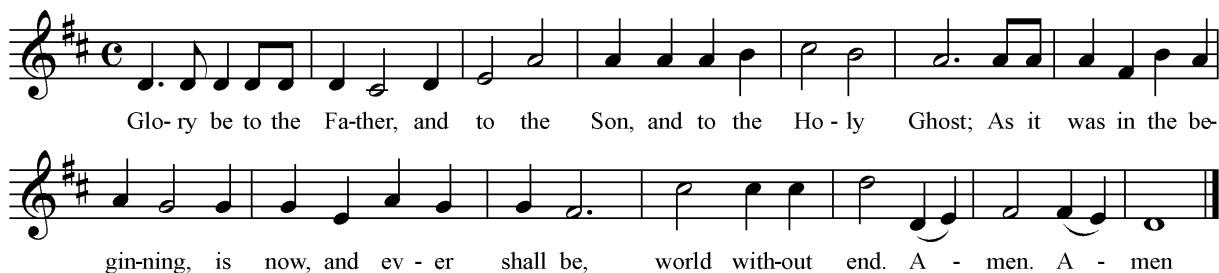
**We are caught up into God’s mighty acts
of salvation and given new birth through
water and the Spirit.**

All of this is the gift of God in Jesus Christ,
Today we confirm the baptisms of our own.

**Today we give thanks and praise,
Remembering the Lord’s saving acts,
Remembering to be grateful for our baptism.**

OPENING PRAYER

*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

LITANY OF OUR JOURNEY IN CHRIST

(responsively)

Leader: We gather today to worship God and celebrate our many and various journeys of faith, and yet that we are also community, part of something bigger than ourselves.

Confirmands: We have gathered in community for the past year to study and learn, to observe and notice, to deepen our souls in service, to become disciples of Jesus Christ.

Mentors: Our Confirmands asked us to walk alongside them and we agreed to do so, uncertain whether we would be equal to this honor. We too have grown immeasurably.

Parents: How can we pass on our faith to our young? We have turned to the church to help us lead our children to live in the image of Christ, our fullest human stature.

People: How can we know the way? We want to lead a Christian life—all of us—yet we are still learning and growing ourselves, no matter what age we are along life's way.

Leader: Our youth learn more from us than we will ever know; by what we say, yes, but most especially by what we do. We are witnesses, in this sense, to God's age-old story.

People: Teach us, Christ, to live your laws of loving God and neighbor with real compassion.

Confirmands: The faith we are learning is so great. It is big. We thank our parents, our mentors, and this, our home church for walking with us and guiding us along our way.

Mentors: Through our relationship with you, our own discovery has unfolded. Your young lives and faith enrich us. By knowing you, we have received more than we gave.

People: Of course, the journey is not over. Your whole life opens up before you. Wherever you go, we hope you will seek out a community of faith for support along your way.

Confirmands: Thanks be to God, for all of God's gifts. We have so much to celebrate today. Amen.

CHILDREN'S DISMISSAL (10:00 only)

*All children will proceed to Church School.
This morning, the children will learn about "The Holy Spirit"*

EPISTLE LESSON

GALATIANS 3:23-29

Rev. Rosenberger

SERMON

"YOU ARE PUTTING ME ON"

Rev. Rosenberger

FAITH STATEMENTS

(selected Confirmands)

OFFERTORY

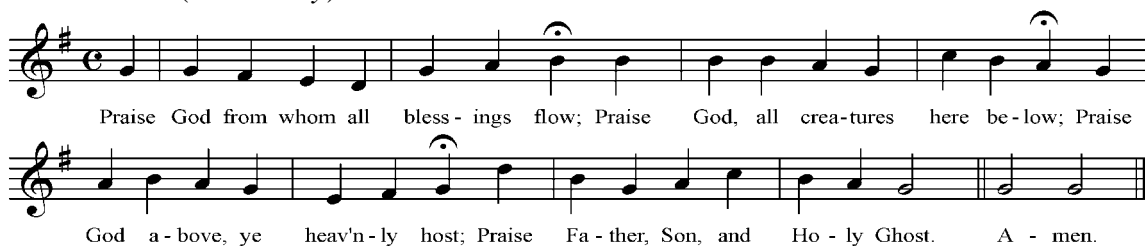
TAKE MY LIFE

Craig Courtney

(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.



RITE OF CONFIRMATION (10:00 only)

ADDRESS

*We invite our Confirmands to rise and face the congregation
as they affirm the faith of their baptism according to this order
from the Book of Worship of the United Church of Christ.*

QUESTIONS OF THE CONFIRMANDS

ACT OF CONFIRMATION

CONFIRMAND

CAMERON GAYLE APPLEBY
CHRISTIAN JOSEPH BARNARD
ELLIE BRENNAN
ELIZABETH CLAY CATOR
LINDSAY STORY CATOR
TYLER MORRISON CRAMER
ANNA KATHARINE FOX
MATTHEW FREEMAN
JACK KNOWLTON GABRIEL
SAMUEL GLEASON
LAUREN WININGDER SULGER
NICHOLAS VAN INGEN
VICTORIA VAN INGEN
DOUGLAS JAMES WERNER

MENTOR

LISA WIST
JOHN WYGAL
ANNETTE MADDEN-KLINE
KELSEY COCHRANE
KELSEY COCHRANE
DAVE MILLER
LEILA WETMORE
LANGDON VAN INGEN
LOU CONVERSE
DAVID YOUNG
ANNA DENOYER
TRIPP FREEMAN
MISSY ALMY
JOHN BASSLER

PRAYER OF CONFIRMATION

RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS

*COVENANT

(unison)

We covenant with God and with one another, as fellow Members of this Church, and bind ourselves in God's presence to serve His kingdom in obedience to our Lord Jesus Christ. We pledge our loyalty to this Church and to the whole body of Christ's Church declaring our intention to walk together in God's holy ways, made known to be made known to us. Amen.

INVITATION TO THE RIGHT HAND OF FELLOWSHIP

*PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

(unison)

Living Lord, we praise you for the faith and love of all disciples here. Blessed by the ministry of our spiritual home, we grow strong and true. Today we all reconfirm and receive the grace revealed in our baptism. Today all join in lifelong promise to praise and serve you, first and last. Fortify us to fulfill vows—spoken and heard--in our future decisions. Help us discover our calling through the gifts you have given us. *(continued)*

**Show us the wonders of your Holy Spirit at work in the world,
so that our faith will keep getting richer, stronger, and deeper,
until we find ourselves, whatever generation, old and gray.**

***LORD'S PRAYER (UNISON)**

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.

***HYMN**

"I WAS THERE TO HEAR YOUR BORNING CRY"

(pages 7/8)

***BENEDICTION**

Rev. Rosenberger

POSTLUDE

Mr. Pakhomov

* * *

TODAY'S GREETERS are the Waite family.

TODAY'S USHERS are April Barker, Lou Converse, Bill Lattimer (8:30) and Al Nickerson.

I WAS THERE TO HEAR YOUR BORNING CRY

Unison

1. I was there to hear your born - ing cry, I'll be
 3. When you heard the won - der of the word I was
 5. In the mid - dle a - ges of your life, not too
 7. I was there to hear your born - ing cry, I'll be

there when you are old. I re - joiced the day you
 there to cheer you on; you were raised to praise the
 old, no long - er young, I'll be there to guide you
 there when you are old. I re - joiced the day you


were bap - tized, to see your life un - fold.
 liv - ing God, to whom you now be - long.
 through the night, com - plete what I've be - gun.
 were bap - tized, to see your life un - fold.

2. I was there when you were but a child, with a
 4. If you find some - one to share your time and you
 6. When the eve - ning gen - tly clos - es in and you

Fine

(continued)

I WAS THERE TO HEAR YOUR BORNING CRY (cont'd)



faith to suit you well; in a blaze of light you
join your hearts as one, I'll be there to make your
shut your wea-ry eyes, I'll be there as I have

wan-dered off to find where de-mons dwell
vers-es rhyme from dusk till ris-ing sun.
al-ways been with just one more sur-prise.

CHURCH CALENDAR

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 29

American Red Cross/FCC Outreach Blood Drive 1:30 – 6:30 p.m., in Parish Hall

THURSDAY, APRIL 30

Cooking for the Norwalk Emergency Shelter
Bible Study, 9:30 a.m. in the Morehouse Room
Senior Choir, 8:00 p.m.

SATURDAY, MAY 2

Maxim Pakhomov in Concert, 7:00 p.m. in the Meetinghouse

SUNDAY, MAY 3 – THIRD GRADE COMMUNION

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



CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

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 17, 2015
immediately following our 10:00 a.m. service of worship.

The purpose of this congregational meeting is to:

- * receive the 2015 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

Sound Coalition/Habitat for Humanity

The First Congregational Church of Darien will team up with other Congregational Churches in our area as the “Sound Coalition” to help build with Habitat for Humanity in Bridgeport on May 30th. Habitat for Humanity is building 12-14 homes this year and we will be working on their 200th house to date! No skills required — just a hard work ethic and willingness to help!

We will meet in Bridgeport at 8:30 am and end around 3-4 pm. Must be 16 or older. Please contact Heather Raker hraker@me.com if you are interested in helping!

RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE
Here at First Congregational Church of Darien

PLEASE CONSIDER GIVING BLOOD ON Wednesday, April 29th, 2015
HERE AT THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH – IN PARISH HALL.

1:30 P.M. - 6:30 P.M. ON WEDNESDAY APRIL 29TH, 2015

Blood is a perishable product that can only come from generous volunteers. By donating blood, you can make a difference in the lives of patients in your community and throughout the nation.

- Every two seconds, someone in America needs blood.
- The blood supply must be replenished constantly.
- Red blood cells last on the shelf for 42 days and platelets have a shelf life of only five days.

Come Join us in Fellowship and give the true gift of life.

To schedule an appointment please call

1-800-RED CROSS ~ 1-800-733-2767

Or visit us online at

Redcrossblood.org

In May We Help: May 9th - Sorting Food Donations at P2P

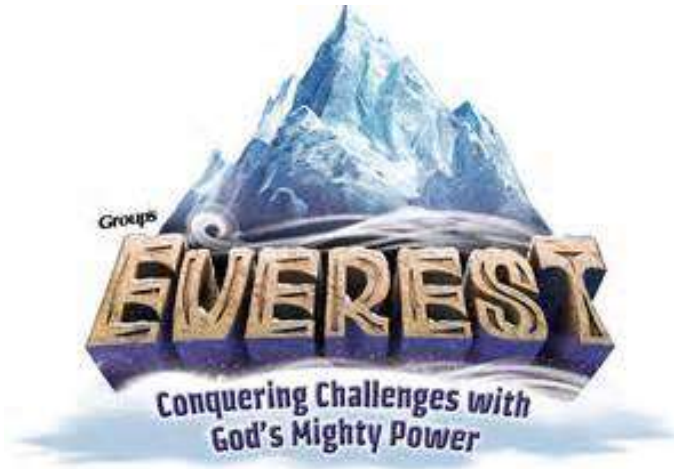
Each year in May, The Board of Outreach provides a service project for all families in our church to come together and work in the community helping others. This year, with the House Tour close at hand in June, we chose a simple yet fulfilling service day helping at Person-to-Person, which is the main beneficiary of the House Tour.

On Saturday, May 9th, we will help sort food donations collected during the Postal Workers' Food Drive at the P2P Food Pantry in Darien (behind St. Luke's Church). Please sign up in the Parish Hall for a time slot at either location from 12 to 5 pm. This is a great opportunity to work with your children and friends to help others. The P2P team is well organized and make volunteering effortless.

The impact: "We know that there are 9000 people in Norwalk and 18,000 in Stamford who are 'food insecure,' Ceci Maher, Executive Director of P2P, reports, "meaning they don't know where their next meal will come from or they will run out of money for food by the end of the month." In 2014, about 734,000 meals were created from groceries supplied by P2Ps food pantries, helping almost 24,000 people in our area. The difference we can make is profound!

Please lend a hand!

--**The Board of Christian Outreach**



First Congregational Church of Darien
is hosting our 2nd annual Preschool VBS!

Join us for a 3 day incredible adventure exploring God's mighty power! There will plenty of crafts, songs, games, Bible stories and much, much more!

When: Monday, June 15th through Wednesday, June 17th

Ages: 3-5 (potty-trained) *open to church members only through May 29th

Cost: \$45 for the week and an hour or two of your time!

Where: FCC at 14 Brookside Road, Darien CT

Register: <https://www.groupvbspro.com/vbs/ez/FCCPreschoolVBS>

If it brings you to a page to register VBS Pro, just X it out and you will be at the page!

Or for more information, please contact Kate Nelson at KNelson@uccdarien.org

If you are interested in volunteering, please email Kate as well.

*For an older crowd at VBS, we are working in conjunction with St. Paul's where they will be offering VBS from June 22-26 for ages 3 through Grade 5. For more information please check out our website or at www.stpaulsdarien.org.

What do you most value in an Associate Minister for our congregation?

As our church begins the process of identifying an Associate Minister, the search committee invites you to an Eleventh Hour following the 10 am service on Sunday, May 3. We'll introduce the committee members and briefly outline the process, then get to the main purpose – to hear your thoughts on the qualities and qualifications you would like to see in the Associate Minister. So, get a cup of coffee and then join us in the Morehouse Room at around 11:15 on Sunday, May 3.

If you can't attend, we also welcome your comments at jonbigelow@thayerpond.com.

A Confirmation Prayer

May the faith you confirm today
Be your key
To open the doors to....
HOPE, when all seems lost,
JOY, when despair consumes you,
LOVE, when hatred afflicts you, and
PEACE, when turmoil surrounds you.

Guard it well
And keep it close,
This precious key,
For when it is lost
All is lost.
But when it is found,
It will set you free
And always guide you HOME.

Annabel Cruz

Ministers: Every member of the congregation.

Clergy and Staff:

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

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

Sally Bassler, *Lay Minister for Pastoral Care* (cell) (203) 554-1724

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

Kate Nelson, *Church School Director* Justin Inners, *Youth Minister*

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

Dennis Hanlon, *Church Administrator*

Carlos Maya, *Weekday Sexton* Ulises Mendez, *Sunday Sexton*