



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: office@uccdarien.org
www.uccdarien.org



TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
October 23, 2016 – 8:30 a.m. and 10:00 a.m.



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October 23, 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.***

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Dale Rosenberger, Senior Minister

PASSING OF THE PEACE

***HYMN**

“THE CHURCH’S ONE FOUNDATION”

(next page)

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

This home is the house of God, a holy temple.
We gather in the midst of God’s dwelling place.

**Our voices rise in praise of God’s amazing deeds.
Mountains, seas, and plains bow before the Lord.**

God crowns the year with the beauty and bounty of harvest.
Abundance and generosity fill the meadows, then our hearts.

**The presence of God is felt to the ends of the earth;
all of creation is God’s dwelling place, God’s home.**

(All uniting)

We are a people of a common place, of a shared story, and of God’s living Word.

***OPENING PRAYER**

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.**

THE CHURCH'S ONE FOUNDATION



1 The Church's one foun - da - tion Is Je - sus Christ her Lord;
 2 E - lect from ev - ery na - tion, Yet one o'er all the earth,
 3 'Mid toil and trib - u - la - tion, And tu - mult of her war,
 4 Yet she on earth hath un - ion With God, the Three in One,



She is his new cre - a - tion By wa - ter and the word;
 Her char - ter of sal - va - tion, One Lord, one faith, one birth,
 She waits the con - sum - ma - tion Of peace for ev - er - more;
 And mys - tic sweet com - mun - ion With those whose rest is won.



From heaven he came and sought her To be his ho - ly bride;
 One ho - ly name she bless - es, Par - takes one ho - ly food,
 Till with the vi - sion glo - rious, Her long - ing eyes are blest,
 O hap - py ones and ho - ly! Lord, give us grace that we



With his own blood he bought her, And for her life he died.
 And to one hope she press - es, With ev - ery grace en - dued.
 And the great Church vic - to - rious Shall be the Church at rest.
 Like them, the meek and low - ly, On high may dwell with thee. A-men.



*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

PRESENTATION OF FOURTH GRADE BIBLES (10:00 only)

CHLOE ISABELLE ADAMS, PAULINA ALMY, KATIE WALSH, PAIGE WESTBROOK

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE & DISMISSAL (10:00 only)

JOYS AND CONCERNS

EPISTLE LESSON

2 TIMOTHY 3:14 – 4:5

Leo Schlinkert, Deacon (8:30)

Phil Meyer, Deacon (10:00)

But as for you, continue in what you have learned and firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it, and how from childhood you have known the sacred writings that are able to instruct you for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. All scripture is inspired by God and is useful for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, so that everyone who belongs to God may be proficient, equipped for every good work.

In the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who is to judge the living and the dead, and in view of his appearing and his kingdom, I solemnly urge you: proclaim the message; be persistent whether the time is favorable or unfavorable; convince, rebuke, and encourage, with the utmost patience in teaching. For the time is coming when people will not put up with sound doctrine, but having itching ears, they will accumulate for themselves teachers to suit their own desires, and will turn away from listening to the truth and wander away to myths. As for you, always be sober, endure suffering, do the work of an evangelist, carry out your ministry fully.

*HYMN

“TELL ME THE STORIES OF JESUS”

(next page)

TELL ME THE STORIES OF JESUS



1. Tell me the sto-ries of Je - sus I love to hear;
2. First let me hear how the chil - dren stood round his knee,
3. In - to the cit - y I'd fol - low the chil-dren's band,



things I would ask him to tell me if he were here:
and I shall fan-cy his bless - ing rest - ing on me;
wav-ing a branch of the palm tree high in my hand;



scenes by the way - side, tales of the sea,
words full of kind - ness, deeds full of grace,
one of his her - alds, yes, I would sing



sto - ries of Je - sus, tell them to me.
all in the love - light of Je - sus' face.
loud - est ho - san - nas, "Je - sus is King!"



GOSPEL LESSON

LUKE 18:1-8

Rev. Rosenberger

Then Jesus told them a parable about their need to pray always and not to lose heart. He said, ‘In a certain city there was a judge who neither feared God nor had respect for people. In that city there was a widow who kept coming to him and saying, “Grant me justice against my opponent.” For a while he refused; but later he said to himself, “Though I have no fear of God and no respect for anyone, yet because this widow keeps bothering me, I will grant her justice, so that she may not wear me out by continually coming.”’ And the Lord said, ‘Listen to what the unjust judge says. And will not God grant justice to his chosen ones who cry to him day and night? Will he delay long in helping them? I tell you, he will quickly grant justice to them. And yet, when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on earth?’

SERMON

“LETTING GOD’S STORY HAVE ITS WAY WITH US”

Rev. Rosenberger

OFFERTORY (10:00 only)

“SEND OUT THY LIGHT”

M. Balakirev

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** (10:00 only)

(unison)

You have dealt wondrously with us, gracious God. We have gathered in your temple to adore you and join in efforts to share faith with one another and with the world. Through our offerings, we wish to extend the witness made her into our neighborhoods, and, in ever-widening circles, to the ends of the earth. Bless and multiply our efforts, we pray. Amen.

***HYMN**

“WONDERFUL WORDS OF LIFE”

(next page)

***BENEDICTION**

Rev. Rosenberger

POSTLUDE

WONDERFUL WORDS OF LIFE

1 Sing them o - ver a - gain to me, won - der - ful words of life;
 2 Christ, the bless - ed One, gives to all won - der - ful words of life;
 3 Sweet - ly ech - o the gos - pel call, won - der - ful words of life;

let me more of their beau - ty see, won - der - ful words of life.
 sin - ner, list to the lov - ing call, won - der - ful words of life.
 of - fer par - don and peace to all, won - der - ful words of life.

Words of life and beau - ty, teach me faith and du - ty:
 All so free - ly giv - en, woo - ing us to heav - en:
 Je - sus, on - ly Sav - ior, sanc - ti - fy for - ev - er:

Refrain

Beau - ti - ful words, won - der - ful words, won - der - ful words of life. life.

TODAY'S GREETERS are the McCarthy family: Greer, Taryn, Marley (Confirmand) and Ozzie.

TODAY'S USHERS are April Barker, Gary Holmes, Phil Meyer and Leo Schlinkert (8:30).

CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

TODAY'S CHURCH SCHOOL LESSON

Today's lesson is Joseph and his brothers from the book of Genesis 37 Please note that next week October 30th, Pastor Dale will be joining Church School.

COMPANION HYMNALS - DON'T MISS OUT!!!

The new blue companion hymnals have arrived!! For \$25 each, why not have one or two in your favorite pew with your name or a loves ones name personalized inside?? These new hymnals will complement the Pilgrim Hymnals. Only a limited number are in stock, so do not delay! Stop by and take a look at our display table during coffee hour!!

Questions, please contact kristindesautelle@gmail.com. Thank you!

THE DAY WINGS

will meet on Thursday, Nov. 3rd for lunch, at noon, in the Circle Room. A special blessing will be a short piano concert by Max! Gary Morello will also offer a vignette of his world in the church. All are welcome to join us. Please contact Sally Bassler (203-655-9658;

sbassler13@gmail.com) so we can prepare a place for you.

(Bring your own sandwich - drinks and dessert will be provided.)

THE CLASSICS BOOK GROUP IS MEETING ON WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 26TH AT 3:00 IN THE LIBRARY.

We are reading Brave New World by Aldous Huxley. Come, take part in our conversation, even if you read the book long ago. Call Sally Bassler (203-655-9658) or just drop in.

PARENTS & OTHER ADULTS GET INVOLVED WITH DHS YOUNG LIFE AND MMS WYLDLIFE!

If you are interested in FCC youth partner ministries with DHS Young Life and MMS WyldLife, there will be two information meetings for adults **Sun, Oct. 23, 6 - 6:45 pm** and **Mon, Oct. 24, 7 - 7:45 pm**. They will be held at the home of Eric & Erika Allen, 3 Nutmeg Lane, Darien (203.921.9349).

Want to know more? Contact Jennifer Van Ingen at jenlvi@optonline.net

BOARD OF CHRISTIAN OUTREACH

The First Congregational Church of Darien Helps! Join us!

News:

- The First Congregational Church Board of Outreach and the House Tour Committee have selected the Open Door Shelter as the “primary” beneficiary of the house tour which will occur this coming June. The Open Door Shelter is building a brand new 19,000 square foot facility to house the homeless. We are excited to be a part of this exciting project! The House Tour will fund the shelter as well as another 20 deserving nonprofit agencies which serve the disadvantaged, our youth and the homeless. For more information on the house tour or to help, please email hraker@me.com.

- Thanks to everyone who volunteered at the Feed My Starving Children packing event this weekend and thank you to Fiona Slater who joined us at the morning services last year to tell us all about FMSC, a Christian organization which has been feeding the poor since 1987. FMSC partners with organizations and ministries around the world to get life-saving meals to the people who need them most. Their approach is simple. Donations fund the meal ingredients. Volunteers hand-pack the meals. Meals are donated to FMSC food partners around the world, where kids are fed and lives are saved! Last year, 273 million meals were produced by 1 million volunteers feeding 756,496 children daily. Thank you all for your support of FMSC!

Upcoming events:

- **Cook/Serve for the Open Door Shelter** - Thursday, October 27, 8 am - cook in the church kitchen. Friday, October 28, 11:45 am - serve at the Open Door Shelter in Norwalk. Please email Heather Raker at hraker@me.com to help.

- **Habitat for Humanity Build Day in Bridgeport** - November 5, December 10. 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.

- **Food First** - please bring your non-perishable food items to church on the first Sunday of each month - next date November 6th! Food will be distributed to local shelters.

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

The First Congregational Church of Darien Board of Outreach



First Congregational Church Fall Pot Luck Dinners - Come One, Come All
Saturday November 5, 6:30pm

Sign up sheets are on the Women's Association Bulletin Board in Parish Hall or contact Debbie Parnon or Susan Wilson (contact info below).

1. Sign up to host a dinner by checking the "Host" box on the sign up sheet in Parish Hall for the date you are available
2. Up to 6 people will be assigned to each host - for a total of 8 people including the host(s)
3. OR Sign up to bring part of the dinner by checking the appropriate box on the sign up sheet
4. BYOB and bring some to share
5. Please include your email address and a phone # you use/check regularly
6. We are hoping there will be enough sign-ups to hold several dinners on each of the three nights
7. Dinner groups will be a blend of new and veteran church members with a variety of interests and backgrounds
8. Everyone will receive confirmation for their respective fall dinner information
9. Once people are notified of their dinner group you can communicate with your host to confirm what you are bringing

Questions? Contact:

Debbie Parnon - dcsp1@aol.com, 203-505-1726

Susan Wilson - swilson@optonline.net, 203-655-0106



You're invited to the Youth Group's Annual
HOLY HALLOWEEN PARTY!!!

Calling all pumpkins, ghosts, dragons and witches too.
We've got a spook-tacular party just for you!

When: Sunday, October 30th, from 11:15-12:30

Where: First Congregational Church, Parrish Hall

What: Games, crafts, raffle prizes, pizza & treats!

Cost: Donation of \$10/child to help support the Youth Group

Please wear (or bring) your costume to Church School and stay
for a ghastly good time!

WELCOME TO THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF DARIEN

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

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 26

Classics Book Group, 3:00 p.m. in the Library

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 27

Cooking for the Open Door Shelter, 8:00 a.m. in the church kitchen

Bible Study, 9:30 a.m. in the Morehouse Room

Senior Choir, 8:00 p.m.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 28

Serving at the Open Door Shelter. 11:45 a.m.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 29

Memorial Service for Gus Hedlund, 10:30 a.m. at St. Luke's Church

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 30

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

Holy Halloween Party, 11:15 – 12:30 in Parish Hall

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*

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