



THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF DARIEN

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



BAPTISM OF THE LORD

The Reaffirmation of Baptism

January 21, 2018

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



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*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

Maxim Pakhomov

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Dale Rosenberger, Senior Minister

PASSING OF THE PEACE

***HYMN #384**

“WE, YOUR PEOPLE, GOD, CONFESSING” (*omit v. 3*)

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

(responsively)

As we gather from many scattered places of life,
God’s voice calls us, the very God who names us.

**We all yearn to be truly known for who we are;
not for what others say we are supposed to be.**

Reach out to claim all the gifts God has given you,
unlike any other. We are gifted, singly and together.

**Once we are affirmed as belonging to God,
the Spirit inspires and empowers us to live.**

(All uniting)

**God uniquely and distinctively gifts each of us;
but no one of us is greater than the community.**

***OPENING PRAYER**

Rev. Morello

***GLORIA PATRI**

***Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.***

JOYS AND CONCERNS

CHILDREN'S DISMISSAL

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON ACTS 8:14-17

Phil Meyer, Deacon (8:30)
Mary Ann Freeman, Deacon (10:00)

"Now when the apostles at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them. The two went down and prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit (for as yet the Spirit had not come upon any of them; they had only been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus). Then Peter and John laid their hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit."

***HYMN #308**

"IF ANYBODY ASKS YOU WHO I AM"

GOSPEL LESSON

MARK 1:4-11

Rev. Rosenberger

John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. He proclaimed, "The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

SERMON

"WHO GETS TO DECIDE WHO WE ARE?"

Rev. Rosenberger

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST STATEMENT OF FAITH

See Pg. 1 of Insert

OFFERTORY

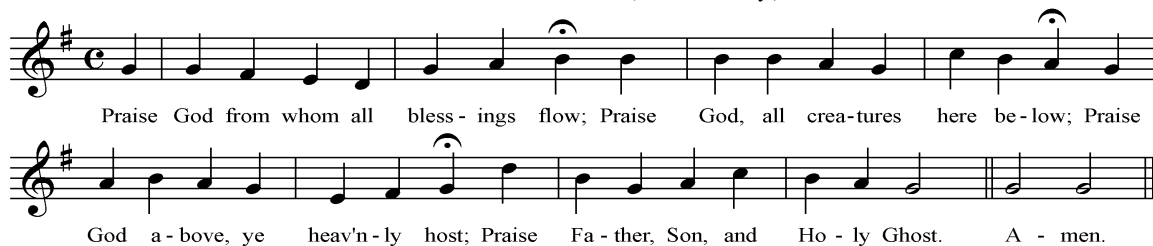
"COME TO THE WATER"

John Foley

(10:00 only)

Senior Choir

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



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

(unison)

We pray, O God, that our gifts would invite your delight. We bring them for all seeking to grasp themselves in light of how you see us rather than how others perceive us. May the weary find hope, the broken find healing, and the captives enjoy new freedom as we become who you made us to be. Let no idol stand between you and us, we pray. Amen.

RENEWAL OF BAPTISMAL VOWS

(see insert)

GREETING

BLESSING OF THE WATER

***REAFFIRMATION OF BAPTISMAL VOWS**

***BLESSING OF THE PEOPLE**

INVITATION TO THE WATER

SERVICE OF WATER

MOMENT OF SILENCE

LORD'S PRAYER

***HYMN #380**

"WE ARE NOT OUR OWN"

***BENEDICTION**

Rev. Rosenberger

POSTLUDE

Mr. Pakhomov

TODAY'S USHERS are Phil Meyer, Lindsay Atha, Kimball Atha (8:30 a.m.) and MaryAnn Freeman , Frank Burke, Dave Sealy.

CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

A CALL TO THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHUCH OF DARIEN

You are hereby called to the First Congregational Church of Darien, United Church of Christ, 14 Brookside Road, for the first portion of the Annual Meeting of the church scheduled for Sunday, January 28, 2018, immediately following our 10 o'clock service of worship.

The purpose of this meeting of the congregation is to:

- * receive the 2017 financial reports.
- * receive the recommendations of Church Council for the 2018 budget.
- * address any other business or concern relating to the life of our congregation, that may properly be brought before the assembled congregation.

2018 OFFERING ENVELOPES

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

CHURCH SCHOOL NEWS

We are still looking for more Church School teachers, subs, and one-time speakers! If you have a talent you are willing to share with the Church School at FCC, please email cgeeding@uccdarien.org.

Youth Band Leads!

Today marks our FIRST Youth Band performance at "Come As You Are"! Come and hear (and worship) with our unique combination of instruments as we present two songs. Can't wait to see you there!

Church School Direction

We spent last semester learning and growing through understanding what the purpose of the Bible is as a whole. Now it's time to dive in! We're going back to the very beginning to tell the classic Bible stories through our new lens of the Family of God. Join us weekly!

ACCESS: January 25th

We're kicking off 2018 with a new year of our "dig deeper" bible study: ACCESS! Our next ACCESS is Thursday, January 25th from 7:00pm-8:30pm. Dinner, games, and great conversation will be provided!

We extend our deepest sympathy to Christine Geeding on the death of her maternal grandmother, Gwendolyn Pemble. Please keep Christine and her family in your prayers.

BIBLE STUDY / THE BOOK OF ACTS



FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF DARIEN
14 BROOKSIDE ROAD
DARIEN, CT

PRESENTS

A WALK THROUGH THE BOOK OF

ACTS

HOW THE STORIES OF THE EARLY CHURCH'S LIFE AND TIMES
CONNECT WITH OUR LIFE AND TIMES

REV. DALE ROSENBERGER, FACILITATOR

EVERY WEDNESDAY IN JANUARY
9:30AM - 10:30AM
MOREHOUSE ROOM

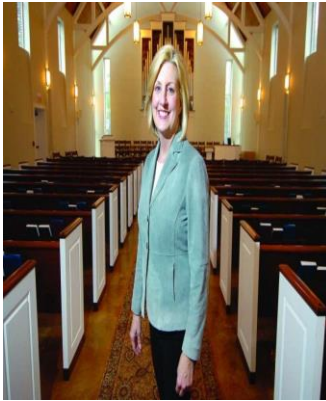


Please join us for a 10-week examination of some of the best-known stories from the book of Acts and a discussion about what they tell us about our lives today.

All are welcome regardless of their background in the Bible.

If you can only attend a few of our sessions, that is perfectly fine! Please come anyway. This is a great way to understand how the Bible has relevance to everyone today.

The meetings will be on Wednesdays from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. in the Morehouse Room.



FCC Care Circle 11th Hour Discussion:

The Invisible Conversations

With Your Aging Parents

With Author Rev. Shannon A. White

Sunday, January 21, 11:15 a.m.

As an ordained minister, Rev. White has seen countless families going through the aging and dying processes with a loved one—some with joy and peace, able to say everything they needed to say, and others with reluctance and struggle, hampered by “invisible conversations” in operation for decades.

In her book, *The Invisible Conversations With Your Aging Parents*, Rev. White provides practical tools to help families deal better with the aging and dying process, wherever they are on life’s journey. Specifically, she provides guidance on how to discuss tricky topics such as legal documents the elderly and everyone should have in place, dealing with dementia, helping seniors decide where to live, financial oversight by adult children, what to do when a parent’s driving is no longer safe, aging and alcoholism, caregiving, and loss and grief.

Undergirding all these topics are lists of practical questions that should be addressed, tips on how to speak aloud the conversations we have in our minds, and brief case studies that provide powerful examples.

RSVP to Mariann Bigelow (bigelow3@optonline.net).

Refreshments and childcare will be provided. Rev. White’s book is available in the church office for those who wish to purchase it before the discussion (\$10).

The First Congregational Church of Darien Presents:



Join us for our Sunday afternoon Worship Service,
Today 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.



**American
Red Cross**

POWER *in the* blood

You can put the power of faith into action and help save a life!

Blood Drive **First Congregational Church of Darien**

Church Hall
14 Brookside Road
Darien, CT

Tuesday, February 27th
1:00 PM to 6:00 PM

To schedule your appointment visit
REDCROSSBLOOD.ORG
or call 1-800 -RED CROSS ~ 800-733-2767

**Streamline your donation experience and save up to
15 minutes by visiting RedCrossBlood.org/RapidPass
to complete your pre-donation reading and health
history questions on the day of your appointment.**

Hymns of Truth & Light

**Christmas is a wonderful time to dedicate a hymnal to
someone special with a bookplate!**

The cost of adding a personalized bookplate is \$25 per hymnal. Please fill out the following form, printing clearly so that your name and that of a loved one are readable and reproducible on a bookplate:

Your Name: _____ Email _____

>>To honor the memory of a loved one:

- A. _____
- B. _____
- C. _____

>>To celebrate someone special:

- A. _____
- B. _____
- C. _____

>>To dedicate a meetinghouse hymnal(s) in your family name:

Your family name: _____

>>Other wording: _____

Total number of hymnals ordered above: _____

Total amount due with this order: \$ _____ (Price: \$25 each)

(Please make check out to First Congregational Church of Darien, with "hymnal" in the memo section, and leave it and the form in the church office.)

**Thank you! Through your purchase, you are helping subsidize the cost of these
hymnals to the church.**



CHURCH CALENDAR

SUNDAY, JANUARY 21

Care Circle 11th Hour Discussion, 11:15a.m.
Come as You Are Service, 4:30p.m.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 24

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

THURSDAY, JANUARY 25

Access 7:00pm – 8:30pm

SUNDAY, JANUARY 28

Worship Services at 8:30 and 10:00 a.m.
Annual Meeting immediately following 10:00a.m service

Ministers: Every member of the congregation.

Clergy and Staff:

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

The Rev. Gary M. Morello, *Associate Minister*

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

Christine Geeding, *Director of Christian Education*

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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