



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 AFTER EPIPHANY

January 28, 2018

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



**NONE OF US IS FREE
UNTIL ALL OF US ARE FREE**

FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

January 28, 2018

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

*A drop-off Nursery is available to children age 3 and younger,
in the Nursery School wing from 9:45 a.m.- 11:15 a.m.*

Please drop off children ages 0 - 2.9 at or before students are released for Church School.

The nursery is the first classroom in the left hand hallway, after the supply closet.

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

PRELUDE

Mr. Maxim Pakhomov

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Dale Rosenberger, Senior Minister

PASSING OF THE PEACE

***HYMN #238**

“THE CHURCH’S ONE FOUNDATION”

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

(responsively)

Great are the works of God, well-worth our praise.
The righteousness of God’s creation abides always.

**Today we gather as a congregation of believers,
to give whole-hearted thanks for God’s mercies.**

God is gracious and merciful and trustworthy,
and he never forgets all of his promises to us.

**The works of God’s hands are visible before us.
We can count on God’s constancy, not our own.**

**All: Awe before God is the beginning of wisdom.
Fear—in the shape of our reverence—is right.**

***OPENING PRAYER**

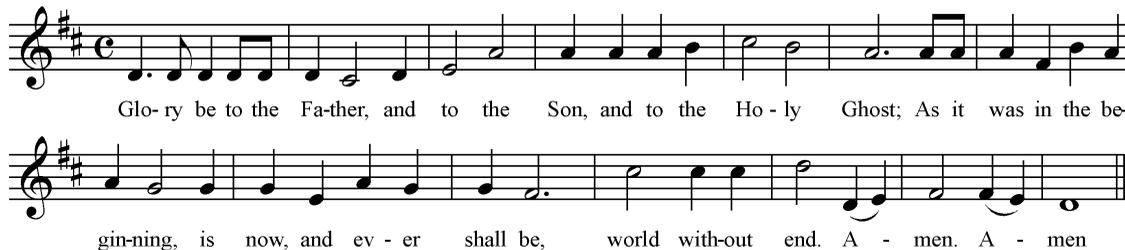
Rev. Gary Morello, Associate Minister

***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.

***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 SERMON

DISMISSAL OF THE CHILDREN

JOYS AND CONCERNS

MOMENT OF SILENCE

GOSPEL LESSON

MATTHEW 25:31-46

Marianne Lauer, Deacon (8:30)

Phil Meyer, Deacon (10:00)

“When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left. Then the king will say to those at his right hand, ‘Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.’ Then the righteous will

(continued)

answer him, ‘Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?’ And the king will answer them, ‘Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.’ Then he will say to those at his left hand, ‘You that are accursed, depart from me into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels; for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not give me clothing, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.’ Then they also will answer, ‘Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not take care of you?’ Then he will answer them, ‘Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.’ And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.”

***HYMN #500**

“O FOR A WORLD”

GOSPEL LESSON

MATTHEW 28:16-20

“Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. ¹⁷When they saw him, they worshiped him; but some doubted. And Jesus came and said to them, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”

SERMON

“WHY DOESN’T THE CHURCH MAKE GREATER IMPACT?” Rev. Rosenberger

OFFERTORY

“PESCADOR DE HOMBRES/LORD YOU HAVE COME” Cesáreo Gabaráin
Senior Choir

***DOXOLOGY**

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)

By sharing the wealth that we cherish so much, O God, we keep ourselves focused on who you are and on what you expect of us. As the body of Christ, may we be a healing force in the world, ministers of reconciliation, ambassadors for rabbi and healer, Jesus. May these offerings encourage redemptive love as far as our influence can reach. Amen.

***HYMN #444**

“LORD OF ALL HOPEFULNESS”

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

Mr. Pakhomov

It is our custom at First Church to share quietly in our Postlude, as our final act of praise.

We invite you to remain seated with us.

* * *

TODAY'S USHERS are Marianne Lauer (8:30am), Phil Meyer, Kristin Desautelle, Frank Burke (10:00am).

*Please pray for Christine Geeding who is absent and in Boise, ID
for the burial of her grandmother, Gwendolyn Pemble.*

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 today, 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 2018, 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 that you are willing to share with the Church School at FCC, please email cgeeding@uccdarien.org.

Special Guest: This week in Church School

This week in Church School we have special guest John Wygal presenting the story of Joseph and the Coat of Many Colors. Get ready for some amazing games, competitions, and a great time learning together.

Needed: YOU!

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.



"Ready Begin" Music Class with Mrs. G. - FEBRUARY!

Want your 3 to 6 year old kids to excel in music? Register for the all-new interactive kids music class focusing on healthy confident singing and note-learning. Classes will be offered twice monthly on Sundays, with a second option on Tuesdays or Fridays. Materials provided! See Christine Geeding or email cgeeding@uccdarien.org for more information.

YOUTH

ACCESS: Moved to February 8th

Access has been moved this month from January 25th to February 8th. Can't wait to see all 6th-8th graders! Dinner and great conversation provided.

BIBLE STUDY / THE BOOK OF ACTS

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.

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

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)

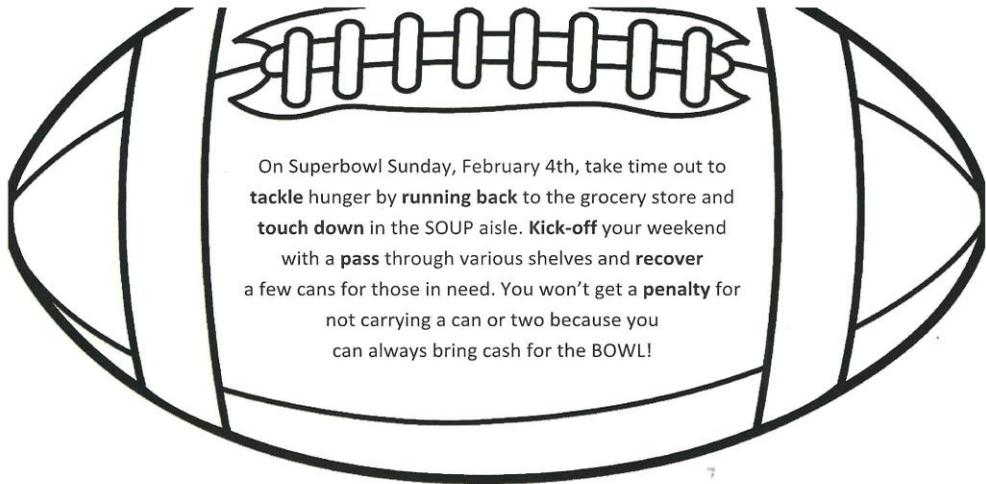
(Please make check out to First Congregational Church of Darien, with "hymnal" in the memo section, and leave it and the form in the church office.)

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



“Soup or Bowl” kicks off
the 1,000 Pound Food Challenge!!

It’s that time of year again!



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.

Please help!

Thank you from the Outreach Committee!

GO PATS! GO EAGLES!



**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.**



CHURCH CALENDAR

SUNDAY, JANUARY 28

Annual Meeting immediately following 10:00a.m service

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 31

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

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 4

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

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 8

Access 7:00pm – 8:30pm

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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