



## THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF DARIEN

United Church of Christ  
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# EASTER DAY

## THE FESTIVAL OF THE RESURRECTION

### APRIL 16, 2017 – 9:00 A.M. & 11:00 A.M.



**EASTER DAY**  
**THE FESTIVAL OF THE RESURRECTION**  
**APRIL 16, 2017 – 9:00 A.M. & 11:00 A.M.**

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

*To ensure the sanctity and safety of our Easter celebration, parents are asked to keep their  
children from reaching for the balloons - until the completion of our 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 #205**

“CHRIST THE LORD IS RISEN TODAY”

*(blue hymnal)*

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP** *(responsively)*

Rev. Rosenberger

By passing through the doorway of death,  
Jesus shows it is only God’s gateway to life.

**His living presence conquers the barriers  
of our darkest fears. He calms our anxiety.**

As Jesus rises, his return to life is not announced by  
searing lights and the other-worldly songs of angels.

**Jesus’ life, tender but fierce, emerges in daily walks,  
in chance encounters, and in the breaking of bread.**

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

**He is risen indeed! Alleluia. Amen.**

\***LORD'S PRAYER** (debts...debtors)

**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.**

**CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**

(Childcare in the Circle Room, for children 3<sup>rd</sup> grade and younger.)

**LITANY OF THE RESURRECTION**

(responsively)

Risen Lord, we nailed you down, our worst instincts reducing you; in response, you blaze the way of hope ahead of us, as you always have.

**O death, where is thy victory?**

**O death, where is thy sting?**

Born helpless as an infant, you knew all of our weakness. Growing as a child into a man, you took all of our joy and suffering upon yourself.

**O death, where is thy victory?**

**O death, where is thy sting?**

Living and working in Galilee, you knew all of our fears and frustrations, you faced temptations we face; you subdued demons afflicting us.

**O death, where is thy victory?**

**O death, where is thy sting?**

We rejoice that your love shines forth as everlasting light, indomitable and imperishable; pointing the way, summoning and directing us.

**O death, where is thy victory?**

**O death, where is thy sting?**

O Christ, as you go before us into death, we rejoice with the faithful all times and places, who celebrate your Easter herald to eternal life.

**O death, where is thy victory?**

**O death, where is thy sting?**

**Amen.**

Sung Response (in unison)

Hyfrydol

*Alleluia! Gracious Jesus! Yours the scepter, yours the throne!*

*Alleluia! Yours the triumph, yours the victory alone!*

*Hark! The songs of peaceful Zion thunder like a mighty flood;*

*Jesus, out of every nation you've redeemed us by your blood.*

## JOYS AND CONCERNS

### MOMENT OF SILENCE

#### OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

PSALM 118:14-24

Phil Meyer, Deacon (9:00)  
Gary Holmes, Deacon (11:00)

The Lord is my strength and my might;  
he has become my salvation.

There are glad songs of victory in the tents of the righteous:

‘The right hand of the Lord does valiantly;  
the right hand of the Lord is exalted;  
the right hand of the Lord does valiantly.’

I shall not die, but I shall live,  
and recount the deeds of the Lord.

The Lord has punished me severely,  
but he did not give me over to death.

Open to me the gates of righteousness,  
that I may enter through them  
and give thanks to the Lord.

This is the gate of the Lord;  
the righteous shall enter through it.

I thank you that you have answered me  
and have become my salvation.

The stone that the builders rejected  
has become the chief cornerstone.

This is the Lord’s doing;  
it is marvelous in our eyes.

This is the day that the Lord has made;  
let us rejoice and be glad in it.

#### \*HYMN #216

“THE DAY OF RESURRECTION!”

*(blue hymnal)*

#### GOSPEL LESSON

JOHN 20:1-18

Rev. Rosenberger

Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the tomb. So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, ‘They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him.’ Then Peter and the other disciple set out and went towards the tomb. The two were running together, but the other  
*(continued)*

disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. He bent down to look in and saw the linen wrappings lying there, but he did not go in. Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen wrappings lying there, and the cloth that had been on Jesus' head, not lying with the linen wrappings but rolled up in a place by itself. Then the other disciple, who reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; for as yet they did not understand the scripture, that he must rise from the dead. Then the disciples returned to their homes.

But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb; and she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had been lying, one at the head and the other at the feet. They said to her, 'Woman, why are you weeping?' She said to them, 'They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him.' When she had said this, she turned round and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to her, 'Woman, why are you weeping? For whom are you looking?' Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, 'Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away.' Jesus said to her, 'Mary!' She turned and said to him in Hebrew, 'Rabbouni!' (which means Teacher). Jesus said to her, 'Do not hold on to me, because I have not yet ascended to the Father. But go to my brothers and say to them, "I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God."' Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, 'I have seen the Lord'; and she told them that he had said these things to her.

**SERMON**

“WHAT IS LOST? WHAT IS WON?”

Rev. Rosenberger

**OFFERTORY**

“AND THEN SHALL YOUR CHRIST RISE UP”  
Senior Choir

F. Mendelssohn

**\*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** (*all uniting*)

**By your hand, O God, we are blessed with life, nourishment, refreshment, and hope. Day by day, you heal our brokenness and save us. You call forth our gifts and grant us new strength to serve with Christ bringing good news of his victory—and ours—into the world. Thank you, God, for spring's new breath of resurrection, for this day of celebration. Amen.**

**\*CONGREGATIONAL SINGING OF THE HALLELUJAH CHORUS FROM “MESSIAH”**

*After the service, kindly leave copies of the “Hallelujah Chorus” score in the pews.*

**\*BENEDICTION**

**POSTLUDE**

Mr. Maxim Pakhomov

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**TODAY’S GREETERS** are:

(9:00 a.m.) Philip and Eliot Jacobs

(11:00 a.m.) Tripp, Mary Ann, Matthew and Ian Freeman

**TODAY’S USHERS** are:

(9:00 a.m.) Frank Burke, Lou Converse, Phil Meyer and Steve Weeden

(11:00 a.m.) Mary Ann Freeman, Gary Holmes, Marianne Lauer and Mandy Teare

**Hospitality and Fellowship**

In between the two Easter services, please join us for coffee, fruit, and sweets. The Youth Group will be running their annual Bake Sale! At approximately 10:15 - we will have an Easter Egg Hunt for small children on the Nursery School playground. Bring your own baskets. It is rumored that the Easter Bunny will be making an appearance!



***EASTER FLOWER DEDICATIONS***

*In Memory of Robert C. Jackson; Marge & Bo Birsky  
Karen and Greg Birsky*

*In Loving Memory of Laurel Richards Kane  
The Casolo Family*

*In Memory of Dr. John David Buck  
The Desautelle Family*

*In Memory of Wife, Mother & Best Friend - Gloria Jean Hanlon  
and  
In Gratitude for This Loving & Caring Congregation  
The Hanlon Family*

*In Memory of Our Parents  
Joan and Bob Hopkins*

*In Gratitude for Dale Rosenberger  
Ann-Gail B. Hult*

*In Memory of George Bregianes  
Ann-Gail B. Hult*

*In Celebration of Our Parents: Hoyt and Ashley Ammidon and Kae Jacobs  
Eliot and Philip Jacobs*

*In Memory of Jay Winfield Jacobs  
Eliot and Philip Jacobs*



## ***EASTER FLOWER DEDICATIONS***

*In Memory of Our Parents*  
**Wyn and John Lydecker**

*In Memory of Our Grandparents*  
**The Lyons Family**

*In Memory of Loved Ones*  
**Doug McPheters**

*In Memory of Rev. Alfred Schmalz and Kathryn Schmalz*  
**The Schmalz-Nelson Family**

*In Honor of Linda Osberg*  
**The Osberg Family**

*In Gratitude for my Grandchildren: Marley, Osgood, Stewart and Evie*  
**Theodora S. Osgood**

*In Honor of Our Parents and Pam Peters Fiorito*  
**Julie and Chris Peters**

*In Memory of My Husband, Vince and My Brother, Dan*  
**Donna Rajczewski**

*In Gratitude for Our Loving Parents*  
**Elaine and Tucker Scott**





***EASTER FLOWER DEDICATIONS***

*In Memory of Jean Newland and Clarissa Stuart*  
**Bobbi and Jean Stuart**

*In Memory of Elizabeth, Thomas and Bill Dean*  
**The Trager Family**

*In Memory of Ed Mufson*  
**The Trager Family**

*In Gratitude for Family, Friends and Our Church*  
**The Wetmore Family**

*In Memory of Nancy Echols Wilkinson*  
**Bruce Wilkinson**

*In Memory of Patricia and Bennett Lord*  
**Amy Wilkinson**

# **CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS**

## **Board of Christian Outreach**

The First Congregational Church of Darien Helps!

**Undie Sunday!** On Sunday, May 7th, instead of food first, we will have Undie Sunday! The Undies Project is working with local churches to gather new men's women's and children's underwear for those in need to help improve their lives. Underwear is the most under-donated, and most needed, item of clothing and no one should be deprived of the simple, daily necessity of clean underwear that many of us take for granted. All donations received from Undie Sunday will be distributed through local organizations such as Person-to-Person, Pacific House, Clothes to Kids of Fairfield County and Project Return, to name a few. Visit [www.theundiesproject.org](http://www.theundiesproject.org) for more information and bring those new undies to church May 7th!!

**The First Congregational Church will be honored by Pacific House on May 6th!** For over 25 years, our church has steadfastly supported Pacific House by volunteering and with substantial financial support. This generosity has made a difference in many lives. Pacific House is grateful to the church and pleased to honor us on May 6th! The Church will be presented with the 2017 David Mond Award, which is presented each year to the organization providing the most outstanding service and dedication to Pacific House. Please join Dale and members of the Outreach Committee! Come one, come all to support our great work at Pacific House! More info at [pacifichouse.org](http://pacifichouse.org) and PLEASE EMAIL [hraker@me.com](mailto:hraker@me.com) if you are interested in attending. Of course we welcome those who are interested in supporting the event by purchasing a ticket, but we will also have underwritten seats available for those who would like to attend!!

**Person-to-Person Postal Drive May 13th** - Mark your calendars to help Person-to-Person through the annual Postal Drive. Person-to-Person needs volunteers all day to help collect and sort food. Stay tuned for a sign up link

**Promote a business through The Darien House Tour: Homes with Heart and support our Outreach Beneficiaries at the same time!** The Darien House Tour event program offers a great way to promote a business. Over 500 people will attend the tour and use the program as a resource. More information at [darienhousetour.org/sponsor](http://darienhousetour.org/sponsor). Click on sponsor to see past programs and rates. Reduced rates for First Congregational Church members so please contact Heather Raker at [hraker@me.com](mailto:hraker@me.com) with specific questions. This is a great opportunity to promote your own business or perhaps the business of someone else - a painter, landscaper, builder, decorator, a financial planner, lawyer, real estate agent, dentist, etc!!!

Thank you for your help, for those in need!  
*The First Congregational Church of Darien Board of Outreach*

## **2017 OFFERING ENVELOPES**

If you made a pledge for 2017, your Offering Envelopes are available for pick-up and are on the table, outside the church office. If you do not see envelopes with your name, and would like offering envelopes, please contact Karen Hansen at [KHansen@uccdarien.org](mailto:KHansen@uccdarien.org).

## **OPENINGS AT THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH NURSERY SCHOOL**

We have a few openings in the 3's and, for the first time ever, the Pre-k. If you are looking for a morning 3's class or are undecided about sending your child on to kindergarten in September, call us at (203) 655-3150. Teri Manning is happy to discuss options!

## **DEDICATE A HYMNAL TO SOMEONE SPECIAL WITH A BOOKPLATE**

Please see insert. Return your completed form to the church office.

## **ALL CHURCH MEMBERS ARE INVITED TO A RING IN SPRING DRINKS PARTY**

Saturday, April 22nd, 6:30 PM to 9:30 PM

Hosted by the James and Nancy Sheed at  
85 Maywood Rd, Darien, CT

- Come when you can, stay as long as you can.
- Feel free to bring a savory or a sweet.
- Please encourage a church friend, old or new, to join you.

Invitations were sent by email but feel free to RSVP directly to Nancy at [nmsheed@yahoo.com](mailto:nmsheed@yahoo.com) or call 203-918-5442.

***This Easter Sunday, half of the offering will benefit Pacific House.***  
***24 hours per day, 365 days per year, Pacific House is there — providing critical, life changing services for those who need them most. Pacific House provides emergency food and shelter for homeless men in lower Fairfield County and to help them live more fulfilling lives through providing support services designed to help them find employment and stable long-term housing.***

***Please join Pastor Dale Rosenberger and the Outreach Committee on May 6th as Pacific House honors our church for over 25 years of volunteer and financial support. The Church will be presented with the 2017 David Mond Award, which is presented each year to the organization providing the most outstanding service and dedication to Pacific House. If you would like to attend the May 6th event, please contact Heather Raker at [hraker@me.com](mailto:hraker@me.com).***

“Science without religion is lame, religion without science is blind.” - Albert Einstein



## **Science & Religion 11th Hour** **Sunday, April 23rd 11:30am**

**The relationship between science & religion has long been debated in philosophy and theology. To what extent are they compatible?**



Join the discussion with Rev. Dale Rosenberger and Dr. Fraser Fleming, PhD, Head of Chemistry Department at Drexel University and author of “The Truth of Science and Religion: From Big Bang to Neuroscience”.

Presented by the Board of Christian Education



# BAKE SALE

Stop on by after Easter Services and pick up some  
yummie treats at the Youth Group Bake Sale  
Fundraiser!

**Today – After the 9:00 and 11:00 Services**

We have lots of Cakes, Breads, Pies, Cookies, Rolls,  
and all sorts of other good stuff for your Easter  
Holiday Dinner.

We baked so you don't have to!

## Hymns of Truth & Light

**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: \_\_\_\_\_

>>>Otherwording: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

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Total number of hymnals ordered above: \_\_\_\_\_

Total amount due with this order: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (Price: \$25ea)

(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.**

## WELCOME TO THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF DARIEN

**"Where God's extravagant love welcomes and affirms,  
where Christ's transforming truth enlivens and compels."**

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

#### TODAY

Youth Group Bake Sale after the 9:00 & 11:00 a.m. services  
Easter Egg Hunt, 10:15 a.m.

#### MONDAY, APRIL 17

Bell Choir Rehearsal, 4:30 p.m. in the Morehouse Room  
Youth Group Bible Study, 6:00 p.m. in the Dream Room

#### WEDNESDAY, APRIL 19

Church Council, 8:00 p.m.

#### THURSDAY, APRIL 20

Bible Study, 9:30 a.m.

#### SUNDAY, APRIL 23

Science & Religion 11<sup>th</sup> Hour 11:30 a.m.

**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*