



THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF DARIEN

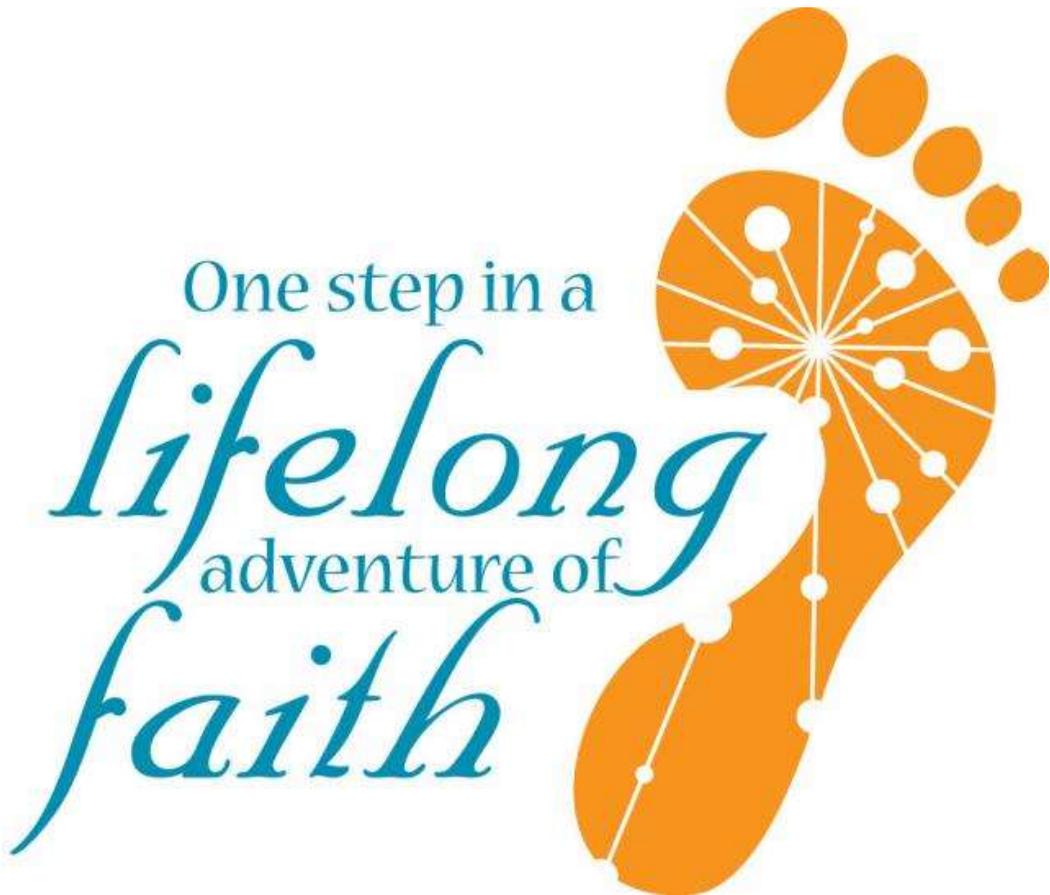
United Church of Christ
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Confirmation SUNDAY

APRIL 24, 2016

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 #12

“FROM ALL THAT DWELL BELOW THE SKIES”

*CALL TO WORSHIP (responsively)

Mr. Gary Morello, Associate Minister

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,
offered to us freely, but at very great cost.

**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)

*Children will proceed to Church School.
Grades 6/7 are welcome to stay in service.*

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON

REVELATION 21:1-6
(page 259 NSRV)

April Barker, Deacon
Lou Converse, Deacon

***HYMN**

"I WAS THERE TO HEAR YOUR BORNING CRY"

(pages 7 & 8)

GOSPEL LESSON

JOHN 13:31-35
(page 108 NSRV)

Rev. Rosenberger

FAITH STATEMENTS

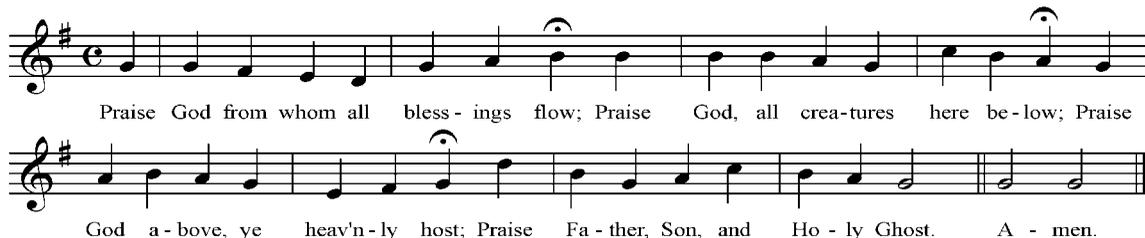
(selected Confirmands)

OFFERTORY
(10:00 only)

"I GIVE TO YOU A NEW COMMANDMENT/UBI CARITAS"
Senior Choir

Peter Nardone

***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

MAXWELL JENNINGS BERRY
CHRISTOPHER JOSEPH BERGWALL
MATTHEW FREDERIC BERGWALL
WILLIAM FORRESTER HAMSON
GEORGE E. HULT
SAMANTHA GRACE LINDELL
BRIANNA CLAIRE LYONS
WALLACE KIRBY MCKEON
TATUM PETTI
OWEN SHEED

MENTOR

MARK DESAUTELLE
BILL LATTIMER
MICHAEL MULLIN
TOM PARNON
MICHAEL BRENNAN
EMILY FOX
NINA MILLER
TERI MANNING
ANNIE PANKOWSKI
CHARLIE WETMORE

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 us and 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 #83** "IF THOU BUT SUFFER GOD TO GUIDE THEE"

***BENEDICTION**

Rev. Rosenberger

POSTLUDE

Mr. Pakhomov

* * *

TODAY'S GREETERS are the Desautelle family.

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

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.

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

CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHURCH SCHOOL

Today, grades Pre-K to 5th will have a lesson about, "The Greatest Commandment" Matthew 22:34-46. Congratulations Confirmands!

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 15, 2016
immediately following our 10:00 a.m. service of worship.

The purpose of this congregational meeting is to:

- * receive the 2016 nominating reports,
- * receive committee program reports,
- * amend our current By-Laws, regarding the Personnel Committee,
Article XI,10(A) – (proposed amendment in red)

The Personnel Committee shall be a standing Council Committee chaired by the Moderator and composed of the Senior Minister, the Chairs of the Boards of Deacons, Stewards, and Christian Education and two at-large members, **each serving one three-year term**, selected by the Nominating Committee from the congregational members.

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

BOARD OF CHRISTIAN OUTREACH

Habitat for Humanity:

The Board of Outreach has arranged for another “Build Day for FCCD” (children can attend but must be 16 or older – we will help arrange babysitting for those folks with young ones that want to help!) We will be building for **Habitat for Humanity in Bridgeport on Saturday May 7th from 8:30 am to 3:30 pm.** If interested in assisting, please contact Heather Raker at: HRaker@me.com. Nothing required but a can-do attitude!!

Person-to-Person Postal Drive

Annual event here in Darien that helps to fill the pantries at the Person to Person locations in both Darien & Norwalk.

We will be picking up and sorting food for the **Person-to-Person Postal Drive on Saturday May 14th.** There will be two shifts to sign up for (10:00 – 12:00pm & 12:00pm - 2:00pm).

There will be a sponsored Hot Dog lunch at P2P starting at about 12:00pm.

Perfect event for the whole family to be involved.

We will be sending out a sign up genius - soon so keep on the look-out!

Email Lindsay Atha with any questions at lindsayatha@gmail.com

Save the Dates:

Darien House Tour: House Tour: June 2nd, 2016

House Tour Party: June 3rd, 2016

Art With Heart!: June 4th, 2016

Proceeds to benefit; Darien’s “Thriving Youth Initiative” which is the Community Fund of Darien’s new program that seeks to address the issues of youth mental health in our community and support local charitable organizations.

We are still in the organizing stages and Silent Auction items are always welcome! Please contact Heather Raker: HRaker@me.com or Anna Denoyer: anna.denoyer@gmail.com.

Hymns of Truth and Light Order Form

Please consider purchasing our new companion hymnal, Hymns of Truth and Light for our meetinghouse or for your own personal use. This new hymnal features more than 500 beautiful hymns to enrich our music worship and will include a personalized bookplate. What a wonderful way to remember or thank a loved one! The cost for each hymnal is \$25. Please include checks made out to FCCD or cash with this order form.

Orders can be left in the church office. Questions? Contact Kristin Desautelle.

I/We would like to purchase ____ hymnals for our church meeting house.

Name _____

Email address _____

This hymnal is given in Loving Memory of _____

In Celebration of _____

In Honor of _____

In Gratitude of _____

Other _____



CHURCH CALENDAR

TODAY

“Come As You Are” Worship Service, 4:30 p.m.

MONDAY, APRIL 25

Bell Choir, 4:30 p.m. in the Morehouse Room

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 27

Darien House Tour meeting, 9:30 a.m. in the Morehouse Room

THURSDAY, APRIL 28

Bible Study, 9:30 a.m.

Senior Choir, 8:00 p.m.

SUNDAY, MAY 1

(DON'T FORGET FOOD FIRST!)

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

Dedication of the Evans Community Center, 11:00 a.m.

Ministers: Every member of the congregation.

Clergy and Staff:

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

Mr. Gary 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*