

September, 2011
Volume 5, Issue 8

Inside this Issue:

FROM THE PASTOR..... 1
WORSHIP 2
USHERS/FLOWERS..... 3
PRAYERS..... 4
STEWARDSHIP 5
WELLNESS..... 6
BIBLE STUDIES 7
NEW CE DIRECTOR..... 7
CHOIRS..... 8
GIVING THANKS.....9, 12
VBS..... 10-11
UCC NEWS 13-14
HABITAT-HUMANITY 15-16
SEMINARY PROGRAMS.... 17-18

Special Events:

- **Return to two worship services, 11th**
- **Rally Sunday, 11th**
- **Reception for Davida Foy Crabtree, 18th**

Ministers: All the Members of the Church are called to serve in daily life

Staff:
Rev. Dr. Linda U. Barnes, Pastor
Kimberly Lewis, Music Director
Susan Skoglund, Office Manager
Tom Evans, Treasurer
Dave Hock, Custodian

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THE

CRIER

*A community of faith
in the heart of Colchester.*

Colchester Federated Church



*“Let all things now living a song of thanksgiving to God our Creator triumphantly raise; Who fashioned and made us, Protected and stayed us,
By guiding us on to the end of our days.
God’s banners are o’er us, Pure light goes before us,
A pillar of fire shining forth in the night: Till shadows have vanished,
All fearfulness banished, As forward we travel from light into Light.” Hymn #554*

Dear Members and Friends of Colchester Federated Church, Greetings in this season of transformation, turmoil and triumph. While the media brings us disturbing news, we focus our longing on God’s creating and redeeming Word. The fields are full of harvest, and our schedules are gearing up for the new season. The children have grown amazingly and are headed back to school. Our music, children, and youth programs begin here at CFC for another seasonal and liturgical year. Sept. 4th is our last Sunday of summer worship at 9:00 a.m. On this Labor Day weekend, we will honor the work that we do using the gifts that God has given us.

The next Sunday, September 11, will be Rally Day as we begin this year of children’s programs, start of our junior choir, and meet our new Christian Educator Tori Lanker. Music from our senior choir again graces our 10:00 a.m. worship service. There is excitement as the pace of our church life increases. On this day we will also say special prayers of commemoration for the 10th anniversary of the Sept. 11th destruction.

September 18th we’ll celebrate a unique time in our congregation’s history as we commemorate the ministry of the Rev. Dr. Davida Foy Crabtree during our 10:00 a.m. worship service, and recognize her as minister emerita of this congregation. We’ll reflect on her legacy with us, and our contributions to her path in ministry. A festive reception follows worship.

September 25th there will be an opportunity following the 10:00 a.m. service to reflect together on the message of the sermon, as we continue our focus on faith-filled worship: praying, praising God and proclaiming the Word to inspire and instruct. Sermon feedback forms will be available in the worship bulletin. We each hear and understand differently. By listening to one another, we can strengthen those opportunities to communicate, and nurture one another in faith and action.

Yours in faith, *Rev. Linda U. Barnes*

September Worship Services



September 4

9:00 a.m. Worship and Communion

Last Sunday of Summer Worship Time
Rev. Linda Barnes leading worship and preaching
Scriptures: Psalm 119:33-40; Matt. 18:15-20
Theme: Responding to the Call of God
Blood Pressures taken after the 9 a.m. service

September 11

Worship 8:30 & 10:00 a.m.

Special 10-year commemorative prayers
Children's programs at start of 10:00 a.m. service
Rev. Linda Barnes leading worship and preaching
Scriptures: Psalm 103:1-13; Matthew 18:21-35
Theme: Memory and Hope
Children's Choir Organization Meeting at 11 a.m.



September 18

Worship 8:30 & 10:00 a.m.

Celebration of the Rev. Dr. Davida Crabtree as Pastor Emerita of our Church
Rev. Barnes leading worship and preaching
Scriptures: Psalm 145:1-13; Philippians 1:21-30
Theme: God's Faithfulness from One Generation to Another
Special Reception in honor Rev. Davida Crabtree following 10:00 a.m. Worship

September 25

Worship 8:30 & 10:00 a.m.

Rev. Barnes leading worship and preaching
Scriptures: Matthew 21:23-32; Philippians 2:1-13
Theme: By Whose Authority?
Sermon Feedback Discussion during Fellowship
Time following the 10:00 a.m. service.





The Church Life Ministry would like to thank the members of the Garden Club for coordinating the Sanctuary flowers during the Summer and the Fall. If you are interested in donating flowers for a particular weekend, please contact the appropriate person below in order to make arrangements. The flower schedule for the Sanctuary is as follows:

| Month | Name | Phone | Email |
|-----------|----------------|--------------|--------------------------|
| September | Nancy Bray and | 860-537-4728 | amifox55@hotmail.com |
| | Shelly Hirsch | 860-537-5131 | croshelly@sbcglobal.net |
| October | Pat Culhane | 860-537-1202 | tvculhane@yahoo.com |
| November | Avis Hull | 860-537-2094 | Avis.hull@sbcglobal..net |

If you would like to supply flowers or some other type of decoration for a special occasion or remembrance, please contact the appropriate person listed above. Also, please advise Susan Skoglund in the Church Office as to how you would like the notice to read in the bulletin.



September 4 9:00 Mitch and Lori Koziol

September 11 8:30 Mary Tomasi
 10:00 Steve and Jesse
 Bradstreet

September 18 8:30 Gerry Caron
 10:00 Frank Ball
 Lynn McCune

September 25 8:30 Mitch and Lori Koziol
 10:00 Tom St. Louis
 Frank Tomlinson

We are still in need of some folks to serve as ushers. This is not a complex responsibility, but one that needs to be fulfilled every week. If you are interested, please speak with Jim Caronna, Rev. Linda, or any of the ushers.



There are Church members and friends who need our prayers, cards or a telephone call. If you know one of these people, please send a card or call; if you know someone in need of spiritual help, please tell the Pastor.

Those sick or recovering:

Bill Bakaj
Emily Grundy
Gail Joslin
Betty and John Koes
Laura Koziol
Kathy Jesmonth
Wildred Marvin
Jennifer Mitchell
Glen Piette

Our friends in Assisted Living, Rehab and Convalescent Homes:

Mark Bosse's mother Eleanor (Florida)
Bob Fletcher (Apple Rehab, Colchester)
Elizabeth Hageman (Luther Ridge, Middletown)
Stanley Moroch (Apple Rehab, Colchester)
Paulette Sharp (N. Hampshire)
Judy Rogers (Harrington Court)

We Pray For:

- We pray for the children and youth of this church as we begin this new program year. We give thanks for all who teach, by lesson and example. We hold in prayer our Ministry of Christian Education, Sunday School teachers and helpers, parents, and our new Christian Educator Victoria Lankerd.
- We give thanks for the faith expressed through music, for those who share their musical gifts in our worship services, and for our music director Kim Lewis. We pray for all in the children's and adult choirs as they begin this new season of worship and song.

- We give thanks for love, and pray for those whose weddings are celebrated in our sanctuary.
- We give thanks for pastors and lay leaders of this Congregation through the years, giving thanks for the Rev. Davida Crabtree, as we recognize her as Pastor Emerita of this Congregation.
- We pray for all who are in need, and for those whose eyes and hearts may be opened to help, including the work of soup kitchens, food pantries, and our own mission efforts.
- We pray for peace in our world—that all may know God's peace which passes all understanding.
- Our prayers continue for those joys and concerns offered during our worship.

If you know of someone in the hospital or in need of a pastoral visit, please call Rev. Barnes or the church office. We'd much rather be told twice, than be unaware and not able to respond with care. Thank you.

Terror no more

"O LORD, you will hear the desire of the meek; you will strengthen their heart, you will incline your ear to do justice for the orphan and the oppressed, so that those from earth may strike terror no more" (Psalm 10:17-18, NRSV).

Ten years have passed since that tragic September morning in 2001, when terrorists took thousands of innocent lives and shattered America's sense of security. As we reflect on this anniversary, Psalm 10 reminds us that God is on the side of the victim, the weak and the helpless. He won't ignore the cries of people in need, and he always ensures that justice is ultimately done.

Shift your prayer life from "Please, God" to "Please God." Take the comma out of those two words when you pray, and transition your praying

from asking God for things to asking God for the pleasure of God's pleasure. —*Homiletics*



One of the best things about heading back to school is the chance for a fresh start. A new year, new teachers, perhaps even a

new school offer students the opportunity to try a little harder and do a little better than the year before.

Praise God that he allows us to always start over. Jeremiah writes that the Lord's mercies "are new every morning" (Lamentations 3:23a). With God's help we can begin each day with a clean slate and a new attitude, determined to make some changes for the better.



Greetings...

We would like to welcome everyone back after a rather hot summer.

Many folks tend to either step back a bit or have extended vacations and/or visits during the summer. We certainly hope everyone's summer was restful and enjoyable.

Typically in summer our pledging tends to fall off a bit. We are confident that everyone who pledges will make every effort to catch up on

their pledge if they find themselves a little behind.

Unfortunately, we have found ourselves a new problem. We have identified several leaks in our roof. While some temporary measures can be taken, we feel there is a great need for us to start the process of looking into roof repairs. We are seeking qualified contractors that can handle a job such as ours. If folks in the Congregation have suggestions, please pass them on to any member of the Stewardship Ministry. We are anticipating that this will be a rather costly repair, and we could use all your prayers as we seek the best solution. We will certainly keep everyone apprised of the situation as we gather more information.

On a more cheerful note, a great big thank you to all the wonderful folks that have been diligently donating supplies to the church. This is a wonderful way to help keep expenses down. So far this year, the Church has received fabulous donations, and it's really helping. Please continue to bring in paper towels, bathroom tissue, and copy paper. As we start the new program year, we will have a need for coffee and paper goods as well. Every little bit helps. We thank you so much for your support.

2011 YTD Giving Status

As of July 31, 2011:

| | |
|--------------------|---------------------|
| Pledged: | \$61,885.83 |
| Received: | \$55,901.50 |
| Difference: | \$(5,984.33) |

90%

Health Ministry



Greetings from the Mission of Wellness

Chances are most people will have to take some type of medication during their lifetime. Medications can be beneficial for your health to treat a variety of health issues. Medications can also have side effects that may or may not cause problems. Below is an article focusing on questions to ask your doctor about your medications.

Questions to Ask Your Doctor About Prescriptions

You and your family can help your doctor find the right medications for you. The doctor needs to know some basic information about your medical history, other medications being taken, and life plans, such as hoping to have a baby. After taking the medication for a short time, you should tell the doctor about favorable results as well as side effects.

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and professional organizations recommend that the patient or a family member ask the following questions when a medication is prescribed. Have this list with you and take it in with you to your doctor.

- ⤴ What is the name of the medication, and what is it supposed to do?
- ⤴ How long before you expect to see results?
- ⤴ What kind of track record, in terms of effectiveness, does this medication have?
- ⤴ What are the primary short-term side effects of this medication?
- ⤴ Does this medication have any long-term side effects that I should be aware of, such as diabetes, sexual side effects, or weight gain?
- ⤴ Are there ways to minimize these side effects?
- ⤴ How and when do I take it, and when do I stop taking it?
- ⤴ What foods, drinks, or other medications should I avoid while taking the prescribed medication?
- ⤴ Should it be taken with food or on an empty stomach?
- ⤴ Is it safe to drink alcohol while on this medication?
- ⤴ How do you monitor this medication? Are there specific tests you run to help monitor this medication?
- ⤴ Why are you prescribing this particular medication over a similar medication?
- ⤴ How will we know when it's time to stop taking this medication, or if the dose will need to be changed?
- ⤴ Is it safe for me to continue taking any of the following: aspirin, Advil, vitamins, and/or herbal supplements when taking this medication? Is there something specific I should avoid?
- ⤴ Is a generic version of this medication available?
- ⤴ What should I do if I miss a dose of this medication; Take it immediately when I remember, or wait until my next regularly scheduled dose?

The Mission of Wellness hopes the above information is useful. If you have any questions about this article, please call Parish Nurse Cheryl Letendre, RNC, BSN, CPN, at 860-537-6516.

Source: Internet search, Psych Central



Starting Thursday September 22, 2011, at 7 p.m., Cheryl Anderson will be offering a **six-week Bible Study entitled *Bad Girls of the Bible***. These gatherings will be held in our Church lounge, and each session will be approximately 1 hour to 1 hour and 15 minutes. Under the theme of *Bad Girls of the Bible*, the following Biblical women will be discussed: **Eve**: Willful or Wise; **Lot's Wife**: Homicide or Suicide; **Rebekah**: Deceptive or Direct?; **Tamar**: Parasite or Persistent?; **Delilah**: Enemy or Entrepreneur? and **Jezebel**: Devious or Diva?

Our Monday morning lectionary-based Bible study with Rev. Linda will resume September 12th at 10:30 a.m. If you are interested in this study but another day is better, let us know. The day is flexible. All are welcome! Whether you can attend once or every week, it will be a worthwhile adventure in faith!



TRAVEL TO THE HOLY LANDS with Rev. Barnes
February 28 to March 8, 2012

Visit Jerusalem, Bethlehem and the Sea of Galilee in this 10 Days of Biblical Discovery tour, starting February 28, 2012. Join Rev. Linda Barnes and Sister Patty Cook as Tour Hosts for this spiritual journey.

Dear Friends,

We invite you to join us in the wonder of walking in the footsteps of Jesus in the Holy Land. As your tour hosts and spiritual directors, we feel privileged to work together, as ecumenical partners, in planning this pilgrimage! We both love to encourage others as they grow in faith and community.

May this unique opportunity provide a living reflection on your own faith journey, deepening your understanding and experience. Share with us in the learning, love and laughter.

Come, join the adventure as the Bible comes alive.

--Pastor Linda Barnes and Sister Patty Cook, RSM

MINISTRY OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Welcome to our New Christian Education Director!

Hello! My name is Victoria Lanker, but please call me Tori. I am so excited to be part of Colchester Federated Church. I come with two years of CE experience at Second Congregational Church in New London, and over seven years of teaching and social service experience in Connecticut and New York. Thank you for welcoming me. I can't wait to meet and get to know everyone!

The letter below was given to my son Matthew and his fellow Confirmation candidates from St. John Fisher Church in Marlborough as part of their Confirmation retreat packets, in anticipation of their Confirmations this past Sunday, May 1. I thought it was a powerful message to the teens as well as to adults, and I wanted to share it with the CFC family. *Susan Skoglund*

Letter from a friend

I just had to write to tell you how much I love you and care for you. Yesterday, I saw you walking and laughing with your friends; I hoped that soon you'd want Me to walk along with you, too. So, I painted you a sunset to close your day and whispered a cool breeze to refresh you. I waited — you never called. I just kept on loving you. As I watched you fall asleep last night, I wanted so much to touch you. I spilled moonlight onto your face—trickling down your cheeks as so many tears have. You didn't even think of Me; I wanted to much to comfort you. The next day, I exploded a brilliant sunrise into glorious morning for you. But you woke up late and rushed off to school—you didn't even notice. My sky became cloudy, and my tears were the rain.

I love you. Oh, if you'd only listen. I really love you. I try to say it in the quiet of the green meadow and in the blue sky. The wind whispers my love throughout the treetops and spills it into the vibrant colors of all the flowers. I shout it to you in the thunder of the great waterfalls and compose love songs for birds to sing to you. I warm you with the clothing of my sunshine and perfume the air with nature's sweet scent. My love for you is deeper than any ocean and greater than any need in your heart. If you'd only realize how I care.

My Dad sends His love. I want you to meet Him—He cares too. Fathers are just that way. So, please call on Me soon. No matter how long it takes, I'll wait—because I love you. *Your friend, Jesus*



This fall, with the wonderful help of Lynn Goodwin, we will be starting up the children's choir!!! We are both very excited about this, and are thrilled to bring the joy of music to our younger church goers.

There will be a brief informational meeting on Sunday, September 11, after worship, where Lynn and I will answer any questions you may have, and for us to determine how many kids are interested in participating.

The choir will be open for any child, Kindergarten age and up. We are planning on holding rehearsals on Sundays directly after the service, with more information to follow at the meeting on 9/11. If between now and then, you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at 860-531-9462 or kimlewis826@gmail.com. Thanks, *Kim Lewis, CFC Music Director*

The first Adult Choir rehearsal for the 2011-12 season is Thursday, September 8, at 7 p.m. The Choir is always looking for new voices, so please come and give it a try! The Choir returns with their beautiful voices for our 8:30 and 10 a.m. services on Sunday, September 11. Contact Kim Lewis for more info and any questions.





Ministry of Church Life members will be calling Church members soon to ask for updated contact information for our upcoming Parish Directory. We appreciate your assistance!

Save the Date of September 18, 2011, at 11 a.m.! We will be honoring Rev. Dr. Davida Foy Crabtree as Pastor Emeritus of Colchester Federated Church. If you would be willing to help plan this event, please contact Deborah Howard, Jeannette Tomlinson, Joann Ridell, John Sawchuk, or Cheryl Anderson Caronna.

Fall Youth Retreat at Camp Wightman

Youth in grades 6 through 10 and youth leaders are invited to an overnight retreat at Camp Wightman on October 9-10. Connect with old friends and make new ones, share time around the campfire, and don't forget about s'mores! The cost is \$80 per person. The registration information is available in our church office and online at: <http://www.abcconn.org>

Cheryl Anderson and James Caronna were united in marriage on Saturday, August 20, at 12 p.m.

Jennifer Stula and Christopher Rivera will be united in marriage on Sunday, September 4, at 3 p.m.

Bobbie Lynn Thom and Michael Reska will be united in marriage on Saturday, September 10, at 10 a.m.



Have a few hours on a Saturday Morning? The members of Mission & Witness committee could use your help!

Where: St Vincent De Paul Soup Kitchen

When: Every 2nd Saturday of each month; leave Colchester Federated Church by 7:15 am

Who: We need a total of 5 volunteers each month; **please consider volunteering at least once during the next year.** Sign up sheets are posted by the double doors next to the Jerusalem Room.

Thank you, Members of Mission & Witness

A Big Thank You to everyone who provided our very 'Special Music' this summer. Our wonderful soloists were...

Donna Duckworth
Walter Plecan
Donna Wink





Our Vacation Bible School 2011: "PANDAMANIA" was a success,
Thanks to the time, talent, and materials donated by many, many people:

Carri, Gordon & Trey
Archambault

Jessi Badrick

Carol Bagshaw, Ian and Kyra
Beattie

Eleanor and Theodore Ball

Rev. Linda Barnes

Caryn, Emily, and Sarah
Baseler

Dylan Bausum

Dawson Bertrand

Brandy, Calvin and Jeanne
Bussiere

Bea, Dana, Jude and Steve
Bradstreet

Jim and Cheryl Caronna

Abby Eberle

Gayle and Valerie Furman

Megan Juhase

Nancy Knapp

Cheryl Letendre

Ruth Macijauskas

Carolyn Marvin

Renee Misbach

The Miskell/St. Louis Family

Karen Monteleone

Avery, Hanna, Joyce Moore
and Chris Nurse

Laurie O'Neil

Karen Partington

Liza Ringuette

Luke and Susan Sanford

Dolores and John Sawchuk

Jeannette Tomlinson

Jen Totten

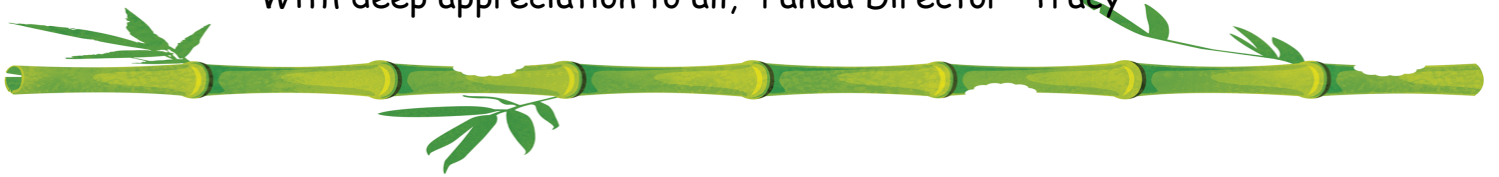
Karen Wheeler

A very special thank you to Emily Baseler who led our Crazy Crafts and donated the money she was given for the "Aram Damarjian Award" back to us for VBS supplies. You are a generous and thoughtful young woman!

May we continue to shine our lights as brightly and sing our praises as loudly as we did this week! "Thank you, God!"

It has truly been an honor to serve as our VBS director for many years. I have joyous memories that will be in my Heart forever.

With deep appreciation to all, "Panda Director" Tracy



Each day at VBS we had a Bible Buddy who helped us learn a Bible Point:

- ✦ Monday: Fez reminded us that "God made you." Thank you, God!
- ✦ Tuesday: Amanda reminded us that "God listens to you." Thank you, God!
- ✦ Wednesday: Boomer reminded us that "God watches over you." Thank you, God!
- ✦ Thursday: Pogo reminded us that "God loves you, no matter what." Thank you, God!
- ✦ Friday: Lulu reminded us that "God Gives Good Gifts." Thank you, God!



Crazy Crafts



Bamboo Blast Games



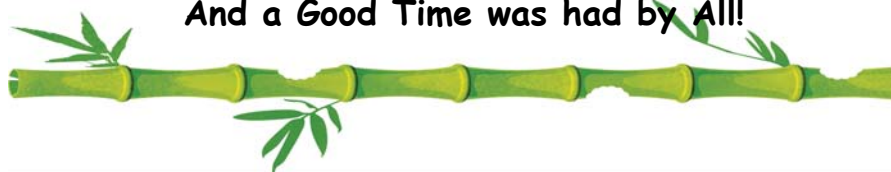
Wild Bible Adventure



Treetop Treats



And a Good Time was had by All!





- **To all of the wonderful women** who cook, bake, buy and set-up for the Church receptions.
- **To all of our “Apple Pickers”** who have generously purchased clothing items for children, whose families need the assistance of Colchester’s Social Services, and also to those who donated money. Both generous gestures ensure that the students’ return to school will be so much nicer!
- **To Jim Caronna, Tom Culhane, John Hirsch, Chuck Maynard and Mike McPherson of the Stewardship Committee** for graciously moving desks and tables in the Church Office and re-setting the computer equipment. Thank you!
- **To George and Laurel Aronstamm** for donating two cases of letter-size copy paper. Much appreciated!
- **To Dawn LePage** for repainting the bookcase in the Jerusalem Room. It looks great!!
- **To Charlie Dente, Avis Hull, Lori Koziol, Carol Plecan, Karen Wheeler, and Cheryl Caronna** for spending Saturday morning, 8/13, at St. Vincent DePaul’s soup kitchen serving breakfast to those in need.
- **To everyone who gives so generously** of their time, talents and income to make this a safe place to worship, share some fellowship, and help others.
- **To all our ministries** whose work we see everywhere we look.
- **To Avis Hull** for taking the food collected on Sundays to the Food Bank.
- **To all of our parishioners** who donate the food!
- **To our faithful Sunday counters and to Nancy Knapp** for her weekly trips to the bank.
- **To Dave Hock** who keeps our building clean and secure.
- **To all the women** who help fold and mail the Crier each month.
- **To everyone else** who empties trash, checks doors, closes windows, locks up, and generally helps to care for our building and our church family. We appreciate all your efforts and couldn’t survive without you!



During Labor Day weekend worship, many congregations bless members of various occupations. From painting to parenting, from truck driving to teaching, from farming to pharmaceutical research, work is honored as holy.

Some might believe that certain jobs – pastor, missionary, bishop – are holier than others. But in his classic book *The Practice of the Presence of God*, Brother Lawrence, a 17th-century Carmelite monk, tells of performing even the most common, tedious tasks as holy service to God: “I turn the cake that is frying on the pan for love of [God],” he wrote. “It is enough for me to pick up but a straw from the ground for the love of God.”

No matter your field of work, remember that any task done in God’s name and to his glory is holy.

United Church of Christ Happenings

144th Fall Annual Meeting of the CT Conference of the United Church of Christ

**To Be Held on Saturday, October 22
First Congregational Church
122 Broad Street,
Guilford, Connecticut**

Meeting Schedule:

8:00 a.m. Registration
8:15 a.m. Hearings
8:45 a.m. Opening Worship
5:00 p.m. Adjourn

The Rev. Charles Wildman, Interim
Conference Minister's address

Conference Minister Search Committee;
Listening Sessions; Plenary & Business
2012 Budget; The Living Waters Award -
Marilyn Graham, Executive Director of HOPE,
Inc. and a member Mystic Congregational
Church; Resolution, Reports and Recognitions;
Mission: 1

<http://www.ctucc.org/annualmeeting/>
For more information contact Sue Wilber,
suew@ctucc.org; (860) 761-7114

**EASTERN DISTRICT WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP
ANNUAL RETREAT
Being Vessels Through Which Grace Is Working
Saturday, September 24, 2011
9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Mystic Congregational Church
43 East Main Street,
Mystic, Connecticut
Retreat Leader: Rev. Lee A. Ireland**



WOMEN'S RETREAT

"Last year as we walked together, we learned about how grace occurs in our lives when we have prepared our hearts and minds to welcome God's love in a whole new way. When we do, we receive insights that move us beyond the complications of the past or present moment and we become those who know a freedom beyond words and a new joy in living in this world. We then become those who can help invite others into awakening to God's grace in the world. To get there though, we sometimes have to 'get ourselves out of the way' so that God's light can shine through us. Come and strengthen your ability to shine."

Registration fee, which includes lunch, is \$35.00 per person. Please register by September 14. Registration forms are available in the Church office. Mail with check made payable to: **Eastern District Women's Fellowship** to Liz Longacre, 115 Cook Hill Rd, Griswold, CT 06351. For additional information, contact: Liz Longacre, e-mail, jemlongacre@netzero.net or 860-376-5837.

United Church of Christ Happenings



Open & Affirming: How to Get There...How to Live into It

October 1, 2011, 10 AM – 3 PM

Immanuel Congregational Church, 10 Woodland St., Hartford, CT

Registration \$15 per person/incl. lunch; \$75 per church with 5 or more attending
Register on-line or get a registration form from the Church office.

Andrew Lang, Executive Director, UCC Coalition for LGBT Concerns;
Kathie Carpenter, Lead ONA Consultant UCC Coalition for LGBT Concerns

Workshops center around various issues and concerns for ONA Congregations and their members, including *In Our Shoes*, a project to raise awareness of the problem of bullying in our schools, communities, and on-line.

If you are an Open and Affirming Congregation, talking about Open and Affirming or thinking about it, there will be something here for you/your church. Come be in conversation with others, learn what it means to be Open and Affirming and how to fully express extravagant welcome to all God's children.

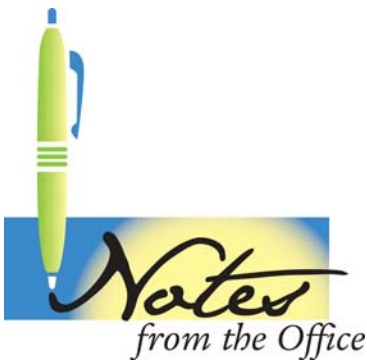
Contact Cecile Gilson, Connecticut Conference United Church of Christ, cecileg@ctucc.org or Anne Stanback, Immanuel Congregational Church, astanback@me.com with questions.

MISSION 1

Nov. 1-11, 2011... ONE UNITED CHURCH on a shared mission for 11 powerful days to feed the hungry and confront food-related injustice. This is MISSION: 1 !!!

- In 11 days, the United Church of Christ will collect more than 1 MILLION ITEMS OF HEALTHY FOOD and other household items for local food banks and outreach services.
- In 11 days, the United Church of Christ will make an extra-special push to gather online contributions of more than \$111,111 DOLLARS for Neighbors in Need, offerings that will be shared for hunger-action purposes with agencies of justice and compassion throughout the U.S.
- In 11 days, the United Church of Christ will offer more than 11,111 LETTERS to Congress asking our government to reform U.S. foreign assistance in a way that more effectively benefits hungry and poor people worldwide, helping to provide a major final push to *Bread for the World's 2011* "Offering of Letters" campaign.
- DURING THE FIRST 11 DAYS of NOVEMBER, an online tote board at ucc.org will tally our collective count of foodstuffs, donations and letters - information we'll update and celebrate in real time together.
- And throughout the 11 days, the UCC's Justice and Witness Ministries will organize church-member delegations to meet with Members of Congress to bring attention to our church's concern about hunger at home and abroad.

<http://ucc.org/mission1>



Check the Bulletin Boards in the Church Office for other area churches' activities; UCC, Baptist, and community happenings; information about Rev. Linda's 2012 Holy Land trip; and upcoming events at our Church. Please let Susan Skoglund know if you have church- or community-related activities you would like posted. Thanks!

Free Trade Coffee, Tea, Drinking and Baking Cocoa is available for sale in the Church Office, ranging from \$4 to \$8.

Don't forget to e-mail or call the Church Office to sign-up to receive *The Crier* via e-mail every month!



An Opportunity to Help Others



Many of you know that during the summer months the demand for blood by our local hospitals is great, but because of vacations, etc., donations are lower in CT than they have been in years. The Red Cross has put out a plea for everyone who is able to help by donating blood. You can register to give blood by calling 1-800-448-3543 or go on line at www.redcrossblood.org.

The Westchester Congregation Church's Café returns on October 1 with a Youth Night. The entertainment will be a sibling group called Scarlet Fade, a group with a "pop/rock beat, blending the struggles of life into a high-energy, captivating stage show that has touches the hearts of an ever-expanding loyal fan base of all ages. Their website is www.scarletfade.com."



The Hospice Southeastern CT Grief Support meeting schedule for Fall is posted in the Church Office. There are free weekly meetings in September and October for children, teens, adults and seniors. Hospice Southeastern CT's phone for more info.: 860-848-5699.

ECAR 10th Annual Golf Tournament

The Eastern Connecticut Association of Realtors is gearing up for its annual golf tournament to support **Habitat for Humanity**. **Get your clubs ready!**

To register for the tournament [Click Here](#) to print the registration form to mail in.

Location: River Ridge Golf Course, 259 Preston Road, Griswold, CT
Date: Friday, Sept 16th
Time: Registration and Lunch - 11 am; Shot Gun Start - 12 noon;
Dinner and Raffles - 5 pm
Cost: \$125/person includes Lunch, Golf, Dinner, Prizes
Contact: Michele Peters: cell 860.884.3084; mpeters@randallrealtors.com



BUILDING ON FAITH

Please join Habitat for Humanity of Southeastern Connecticut for Building on Faith Weekend 2011

Friday Sept 16th—Sunday Sept 18th

Rain or Shine

13 Brainard St. New London CT 06320

Build Day

Fri. Sept. 16th

8:30–3:30

Clergy are especially encouraged to participate

Build Day

Sat., Sept. 17th

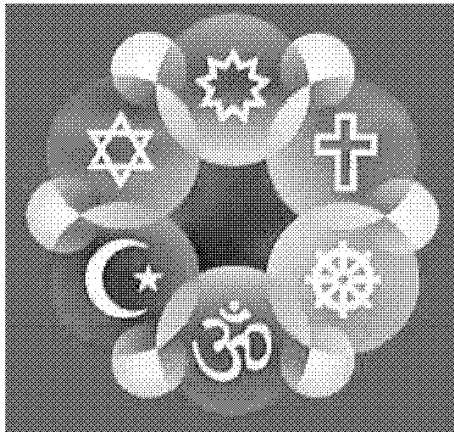
8:30–3:30

Build Day

Sun., Sept. 18th 1-5

Interfaith Prayer Service

on the build site , 3 pm.
Readings from Christian, Judaic and Muslim scriptures, Spanish reading



For more information go to www.habitatsect.org

To sign up for a build day go to www.habitatsect.org and click on the volunteer up link.

Contact Faith Relations at 860-442-7890 ext 202 or Faithinaction@habitatsect.org with any questions.

 **Habitat for Humanity**[®]
of Southeastern Connecticut

HARTFORD SEMINARY UPCOMING EVENTS

IN THE SHADOW OF SEPTEMBER 11: THE FAITH COMMUNITY RESPONDS

Thursday, September 8, 2011

Hartford Public Library, 500 Main Street, Hartford, CT 06105

Light Refreshments: 5:30 p.m.; Program 6:00 p.m.

Co-Sponsors: Hartford Seminary, Charter Oak Cultural Center and Hartford Public Library

It has been ten years since the September 11 terrorist attacks in New York and Washington. How has religion helped us understand and cope with the impact of this pivotal event? How has it changed faith communities in the U.S.? What challenges are likely in the future? Join us for this important discussion.

Panelists:

- ★ **Dr. M. Saud Anwar**, *President, Pakistani American Public Affairs Committee*
- ★ **Malou Dusyn**, *Co-Director, Hartford Karma Thegsum Choling. and President, Tara Shedrup, Inc.*
- ★ **The Rev. Dr. Edward Horstmann**, *Senior Minister, Immanuel Congregational Church, Hartford*
- ★ **Prof. Yehezkel Landau**, *Faculty Associate in Interfaith Relations, Hartford Seminary*
- ★ **Dr. Shyamala Raman**, *Director of International Studies, St. Joseph College*

Moderator: **The Rev. Dr. Shelley D. Best**, *President and CEO, The Conference of Churches*

To Register on-line:

<https://events.r20.constantcontact.com/register/eventReg?oeidk=a07e4i7l8mc1ed25a1d&oseq=>

Cost: Free

AN ARC OF HOPE: MUSLIMS, INTERFAITH ENGAGEMENT AND PEACEBUILDING AFTER 9/11

Sunday, September 11, 1 to 5 p.m.

Hartford Seminary, 77 Sherman Street, Hartford, CT 06105

with **Bruce Lawrence** and **Hartford Seminary Faculty**

It has been ten years since terrorists struck the Twin Towers and the Pentagon on September 11, 2001. In this special program, Hartford Seminary will examine the impact of these attacks, with special attention to the American Muslim community, the current interfaith religious landscape, and policy dilemmas now confronting American officials and their allies.

The program will open with an Abrahamic interfaith prayer. Participants in the interfaith prayer are: Dr. Reza Mansoor, a Hartford Seminary trustee and past president of the Muslim Coalition of Connecticut, The Rev. Dr. James Nieman, Academic Dean and Professor of Practical Theology at Hartford Seminary and Rabbi James Rosen of Beth El Temple of West Hartford.

Keynote Address by Professor Bruce Lawrence:

From Axis of Evil to Arc of Hope -- Muslim Futures after 9/11

Bruce B. Lawrence is Marcus Family Professor of the Humanities Emeritus and Professor of Islamic Studies at Duke University. The inaugural director of the Duke Islamic Studies Center (2005-2009), he is currently completing a monograph on religious minorities as secular citizens, from coastal Africa to island Asia. Lawrence was a Carnegie Scholar of Islam from 2008 to 2010.

Offering Commentary will be:

Professor Mahmoud Ayoub on "*9/11 and the Need for a New Paradigm of Interfaith Dialogue.*" Professor Ayoub is Faculty Associate in Islam and Christian-Muslim Relations at Hartford Seminary.

The Rev. Nicolas Mumejian on "*Peacebuilding and Profiteering: A Juxtaposition of Evangelical Engagement with Muslims since 9/11.*" Pastor Mumejian is a Ph.D. candidate in Islamic studies at Hartford Seminary, Managing Editor of The Muslim World journal published by Wiley-Blackwell and housed at Hartford Seminary's Macdonald Center for the Study of Islam and Christian-Muslim Relations. He is also an ordained Baptist minister currently serving as the Education Director at Central Baptist Church in downtown Hartford.

Professor Timur Yuskaev on "*9/11 and American Muslim Political Theology.*" Professor Yuskaev is Assistant Professor of Contemporary Islam and Director of the Islamic Chaplaincy Program at Hartford Seminary.

Professor Ingrid Mattson on "*The Ethical Maturation of the American Muslim Community After 9/11.*" Professor Mattson is Professor of Islamic Studies and Christian-Muslim Relations at Hartford Seminary and Director of the Macdonald Center for the Study of Islam and Christian-Muslim Relations.

Cost: Free

To Register on-line:

<https://events.r20.constantcontact.com/register/eventReg?oeidk=a07e4elxevp1eebe3b3&oseq=>

Questions about either event: (860) 509-9555; events@hartsem.edu

Someone who cares

It's easy to become discouraged when we pause to consider the needs all around us. So many worthy causes and pressing concerns require action. What can one person with limited resources accomplish?

Theodor Geisel (a.k.a. Dr. Seuss) said: "Unless someone like you cares a whole awful lot, nothing is going to get better. It's not."

We're most effective and fulfilled when we put our God-given talents and resources into areas he has uniquely shaped our hearts to be passionate for. Passion is the key. If you want to make a difference, find something you care a "whole awful lot" about and then dive in.

September 2011

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colchesterfederate@sbcglobal.net

Office Hours:
Monday - Friday 9:00-2:30
(860) 537-5189

ColchesterFederatedChurch.org