

THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

Gathered 1635

Celebrating 375 Years of Continuous Ministry

Member of the United Church of Christ

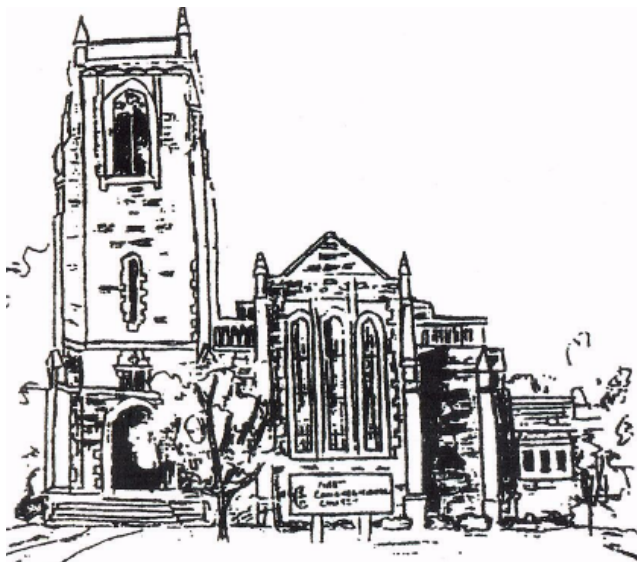
An Open and Affirming Congregation

Walton Place

Stamford, Connecticut 06901

Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 5, 2010



Serving at the Crossroads of Faith and Community

FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

September 5, 2010

9:45 a.m. in McGown Chapel

***All who are able, please stand.**

Please turn off cell phones.

PRELUDE

Timothy Wallace

SONGS OF PREPARATION

I Love to Tell the Story (verses 1&3)

Chalice #480

O, How I Love Jesus

Chalice #99

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Dr. Cari Jackson

CALL TO WORSHIP

Katie Evans

Leader: Beloved, you are no longer slaves to sin, and no longer imprisoned by your past. You have been set free by the Spirit of Truth.

All: We celebrate the freedom of the Spirit. We proclaim what God has done and is doing in our midst.

Leader: Beloved, receive the joy that comes through the love of God and let your hearts be refreshed.

All: We celebrate the love of God, made known through Jesus Christ. We proclaim what God has done and is doing in our midst.

***HYMN OF PRAISE**

Chalice #277

Christians, We Have Met to Worship

***INVOCATION (unison)**

Katie Evans

Holy Spirit, we thank you and praise you for the space to gather with sisters and brothers in worship of you. May all that we do and say in this place give glory to your name and strengthen the

hearts of all who gather here. We pray that we might make a difference in this world because of what we experience together here today. Lord, we praise you, Amen.

***GLORIA PATRI** Chalice #35
SCRIPTURE READING Philemon 4-16 Katie Evans
New Testament, p.215
***PASSING OF THE PEACE** Mason Evans
JOYS AND CONCERNS OF THE PARISH Mason Evans

PASTORAL PRAYER Mason Evans

THE 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.

PRESENTING OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS Dr. Jackson

OFFERTORY *Come, Labor On* T.Tertius Noble;
Arr. by Timothy A. Wallace

Terrence Hyde, tenor
Bill Matthews, baritone

***DOXOLOGY** Chalice #46

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION** Dr. Jackson

SCRIPTURE READING Luke 14:25-35 Dr. Jackson
New Testament, p.52
Congregational Response: *Thanks be to God.*

***HYMN** *They'll Know We Are Christians* Chalice #494

SERMON Rev. Miriam Naranjo Alonso
"The Challenges of Being a Christian"

CELEBRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION Dr. Jackson

COMMUNION HYMN *Come, Share the Lord* Chalice #408

***CLOSING HYMN** *To God Be the Glory* Chalice #72

***BENEDICTION** Dr. Jackson

***CHORAL RESPONSE** *Halle-Halle-Hallelujah* Chalice #41

POSTLUDE Timothy Wallace

*The flowers today are given by Charry Boris
in loving memory of her father, Walter Boris.*

OUR WELCOME

*No matter who you are, no matter where you are
on life's journey, you are welcome in this
United Church of Christ congregation.*

Ushers: Bill Hensley and Tom Jenkins

Large-print Bibles and Chalice Hymnals are available from the ushers.

Welcome Home Cards: We are glad that you are worshipping with us today. If you are here for the first time, please write your name and contact information on the blue card in your pew and place it in the offering plate. If you or your loved ones have any specific needs or requests, please indicate those on the card.

Hospitality: Please join us in the garden (weather permitting) or the Parlor for a time of fellowship after the worship service. Our hosts today are Elfriede Mallin and Maureen Matthews.

Joys and Concerns Cards are in the pews and available from the ushers. If you have joys or concerns that you would like to share with the congregation, please fill out one or more of the cards, which will be collected by the ushers following the Passing of the Peace.

CD and DVD Recordings: CD recordings of today's service will be on sale in the parlor following worship for \$7 each and free to 1st-time worshippers.

Child Care: Child care for infants to 5-year-olds is available during worship. If you are new to our congregation and would like to utilize this service, please ask an usher to introduce you to our caregivers, Elfriede Mallin and Alex McGregor.

Children's Bulletins: Children's bulletins and pencils are in a basket on the table in the narthex.

Library: Our church library, located across from the parlor, is open whenever the church is open.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

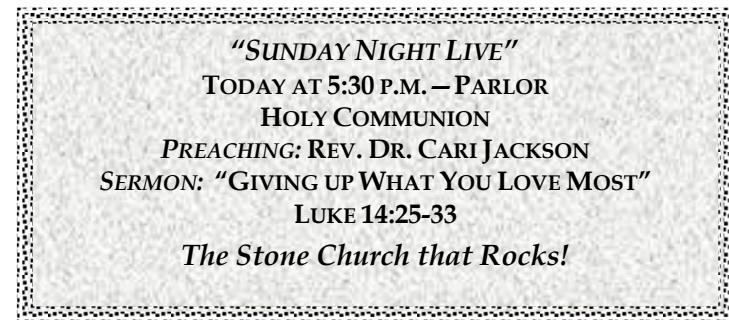
Words from the Pews: Join us for a conversation in response to today's sermon immediately following morning worship service. Meet on the sofas in the Parlor during Fellowship Hour. All are welcome to share your thoughts and questions.

Spiritual Journeys on Monday Evenings: Join us in the Parlor on Mondays at 7 p.m. for our summer series on the minor prophets:

Date	Prophet	Discussion Leader
September 6	Malachi	Pastor Cari

(*Labor Day potluck dinner - 6:00 p.m. at the home of Bill and Maureen Matthews, 279 Glenbrook Road.*)

Membership Class: Saturday, September 18, from 9:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. in the Parlor. Discern if membership at FCC Stamford is right for you. Participation in the class does not require that you join. See Senior Deacon Hilda Cook after the service or call her at 203-322-7549 if you would like to attend.



COMMUNITY SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES

Open Sanctuary on Wednesdays: Our sanctuary is open on Wednesdays from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. for anyone seeking a space for prayer and reflection or quiet respite in God's presence. To help with this ministry of hospitality, contact Maureen Matthews (203-274- 5354, mmatth81@optonline.net).

Cooking for New Covenant House: Volunteers prepare and deliver meals served at New Covenant House of Hospitality on the fourth weekend each month. Contact the church office (203-323-0200; fccstamford@gmail.com) or Susan De Simone, NCHH cooking coordinator.

Volunteers for Hospitality: Calendars for sign-up are on the table in the parlor. For more information, contact Lynne Koellner (203-246-2985, gonelynn@hotmail.com) or Maureen Matthews (203-274- 5354, mmatth81@optonline.net).

SAVE THE DATES

Saturday, September 11Music in the Garden
4:00 p.m. Chris Coogan, pianist

Sunday, September 12.....Family and Friends Sunday
10:30 a.m. Worship in the Sanctuary

Saturday, September 18 Poetry Slam
7:00 p.m. (watch for details)

Saturday, September 25 Dinner Theater
6:30 p.m. Cabaret Dining
7:30 p.m. Theatre Artists Workshop
Reading: Shakespeare’s *Twelfth Night*

GENERAL INFORMATION

Pastor’s Office Hours: Pastor Cari’s office hours are generally Monday through Thursday, 11a.m.-7 p.m. To schedule an appointment, please contact her directly at the church office (203-323-0200) or by email at joyouscari@aol.com.

Schedule for Today and the Coming Week

Today	Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost
9:45 a.m.	Worship – McGown Chapel
	Holy Communion, Deacons’ Fund and Food Trunk Offering
11:15 a.m.	Words from the Pews – Parlor
5:30 p.m.	Sunday Night Live – Parlor
Monday	Holiday – Church building and office closed
6:00 p.m.	Spiritual Journeys (<i>Malachi</i>) – Labor Day Potluck
	Home of Bill and Maureen Matthews
Tuesday	
7:00 p.m.	Deacons Ministry
Wednesday	
11:30a.m.-	“Midweek Boost”, Prayer and Meditation – Sanctuary
1:00	
7:00 p.m.	Budget Ministry
Thursday	
10a.m. -	Thrift Shop
3 p.m.	
7:00 p.m.	Sacred Conversations Committee – Parlor
Saturday	
10:00 a.m.	Church-wide clean-up
4:00 p.m.	Music in the Garden
Next Sunday	Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost
	Family and Friends Sunday
9:00 a.m.	Chancel Choir Rehearsal
9:45 a.m.	Christian Education Program
10:30 a.m.	Worship – Sanctuary
11:30 a.m.	Picnic in the Garden
5:30 p.m.	Sunday Night Live – Parlor

Alcoholics Anonymous: Monday-Friday, 12 noon – Dining Room
Overeaters Anonymous: Monday-Friday, 12 noon – Room 309
The church building and office are open weekdays
9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Church Directory

Ministers – All the people
Senior Pastor – Rev. Dr. Cari Jackson
Organist and Choir Director – Timothy Wallace
Minister for Children, Youth and Family – Sojung Kim
Assistant Music Director – Christopher Coogan
In Care – Michelle Wiltshire-Clement
Administrative Assistant – Peggy Kittle
Sexton – Flor Beltran
Phone: 203 323-0200; Fax: 203 348-2270
Website: www.fccstamford.org
Email: fccstamford@gmail.com

