

the edge

First Church in Windsor
United Church of Christ—Gathered 1630
An open and affirming community
for all God's people



June/July
2011

Our mission is to worship God, love our neighbor,
and follow Jesus as together we journey in faith.

From the Minister –



In the face of historic deficits, our community, state, and nation must address unavoidable choices about how to balance needs and resources and allocate burdens and sacrifices. As we undertake this process however, it is important to remember that these choices are not only economic and political—they are also moral. As Christians we have a responsibility to advocate for the welfare of our most poor and vulnerable citizens recalling the words of Jesus when he said, “Truly I tell you, just as you did it unto the least of these my brothers and sisters, you did it unto me” (Matthew 25:40).

Sojourners, a non-denominational, Christian-based community, has created a mission statement to remind us of our obligation to care for the “needy and the stranger” among us. Entitled, “Circle of Protection: A Statement on Why We Need to Protect Programs for the Poor”, it reads as follows:

As people of faith, we are committed to fiscal responsibility and shared sacrifice. We are also committed to resist budget cuts that undermine the lives, dignity, and rights of poor and vulnerable people. Therefore, we join with others to form a Circle of Protection around programs that meet the essential needs of hungry and poor people at home and abroad.

1. The nation needs to substantially reduce budget deficits, but not at the expense of hungry and poor people.
2. Programs focused on reducing poverty should not be cut. They should be made as effective as possible, but not cut.
3. We urge our leaders to protect and improve poverty-focused development and humanitarian assistance to promote a better, safer world.
4. National leaders must review and consider tax revenues, military spending, and entitlements in the search for ways to share sacrifice and cut deficits.
5. A fundamental task is to create jobs and spur economic growth. Decent jobs at decent wages are the best path out of poverty, and restoring growth is a powerful way to reduce deficits.
6. The budget debate has a central moral dimension. Christians are asking how we protect “the least of these.” “What would Jesus cut?” “How do we share sacrifice?”
7. As believers, we turn to God with prayer and fasting, to ask for guidance as our nation makes decisions about our priorities as a people.

God continues to shower our nation and the world with blessings. As Christians, we are rooted in the love of God in Jesus.

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. said, “A budget is a moral document.” It is our responsibility as Christian stewards to put our financial house in order, but not at the expense of abandoning our most needy and vulnerable brothers and sisters. As we continue to undergo this difficult process, let us make sure our stewardship decisions are a reflection not only of what we have but also of whose we are.

June/July Worship Schedule

Sunday Worship
8 a.m. Holy Communion
10 a.m./9:30 a.m. Family
Worship & Church School

June 5 (8 & 10)
Rick Huleatt

June 12 (8 & 10)
“Christian
Education Sunday”

June 19 (8 & 9:30)
Char Corbett

June 26 (8 & 9:30)
Rick Huleatt

July 3 (8 & 9:30)
Char Corbett

July 10 (8 & 9:30)
Rick Huleatt

July 17 (8 & 9:30)
Rick Huleatt

July 24 (8 & 9:30)
“Youth & Children’s
Sunday”

July 31 8 & 9:30)
Rick Huleatt

June/July Lectionary Lessons

June 5 (Seventh Sunday
of Easter)
Acts 1:6-14
Psalm 68:1-10, 32-35
I Peter 4:12-14, 5:6-11
John 17:1-11

June 12 (Pentecost
Sunday)
Acts 2:1-21
Psalm 104:24-34, 35b
I Corinthians 12:3b-13
John 20:19-23

June/July Lectionary Lessons (con’t)

June 19 (First Sunday after
Pentecost)
Genesis 1:1-2:4a
Psalm 8
2 Corinthians 13:11-13
Matthew 28:16-20

June 26 (Second Sunday
after Pentecost)
Genesis 22:1-4
Psalm 13
Romans 6:12-23
Matthew 10:40-42

July 3 (Third Sunday after
Pentecost)
Genesis 24:34-38, 42-49, 58-
67
Psalm 45:10-17
Zechariah 9:9-12
Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30

July 10 (Fourth Sunday after
Pentecost)
Genesis 25:19-34
Psalm 119:105-112
Romans 8:1-11
Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

July 17 (Fifth Sunday after
Pentecost)
Genesis 28:10-19a
Psalm 139:1-12, 23-24
Romans 8:12-25
Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

July 24 (Sixth Sunday after
Pentecost)
Genesis 29:15-28
Psalm 105: 1-11, 45b
Romans 8:26-39
Luke 13:31-33, 44-52

July 31 (Seventh Sunday af-
ter Pentecost)
Genesis 32:22-31
Psalm 17:1-7, 15
Romans 9:1-5
Matthew 14:13-21

Summer Dates to Remember

June 12—CE Sunday and All-
Church picnic

June 19—Second service be-
gins at 9:30 a.m.

June 20—Church office hours
change: 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

July 3—Patriotic Sing-a-long
after 9:30 a.m. service

July 4—Church office closed

Part Time Position Available

First Church is looking for a
part-time (10 hours per week)
Coordinator of Parish Caring
Ministries. Primary tasks in-
clude oversight of the various
PCM programs, lead monthly
PCM meeting, volunteer recruit-
ment and training, facilitate
special events, and attend
weekly staff meeting. Good
communication and organiza-
tional skills are essential. Back-
ground in a “helping profes-
sion” a plus. Contact the
church office at 860-688-7229
if you are interested.

First Church Wins Restoration Grant

The Connecticut Commission
on Culture & Tourism, Historic
Preservation and Museum Divi-
sion has awarded First Church
a grant in the amount of
\$81,500 to partially fund the
complete repainting of the
Meetinghouse and the restora-
tion of its 30 windows. The
process of contractor bidding
will begin shortly and all the
work is expected to be com-
pleted by end of this year.
Options to finance the remain-
ing cost (approximately half)
will be brought before the
congregation at a later date.

CHURCH NEWS

AROUND the CONGREGATION

Dear First Church Family,
Thank you for the beautiful flowers and Easter lily for my mom, Alberta Merrill. She was so thrilled with them and the kind visits of Rick and Char. Gary and I also appreciate the thoughtfulness.
Sincerely, Leslie Sava

Dear First Church Friends,
Thank you for the lovely Easter lily we received and thanks for all the lovely meals, cards, notes and phone calls wishing us well during Dick's treatment. You are a caring and supportive church and we appreciate you!
Love & peace, Sue and Dick Keirstead

Dear Friends at First Church,
This beautiful lily plant and lovely card describing the Easter service did help me to feel I was there. I've not missed many Easter celebrations—so I especially appreciated your caring thoughts of me at Easter.
My love and God bless, Pennie Campbell

To the children of First Church,
Thank you very much for my Easter card. I hope you had fun at your Easter egg hunt. Enjoy our beautiful world!
God bless you all, Mrs. (Jean) Hotchkiss
(Jean, no one could figure out what the picture on your card was—you truly stumped us!)

Thank you for the beautiful red tulips. They brightened my living room when I returned with my family from dinner on Easter Sunday.
Appreciatively, Louise Thomsen

Dear Church Family,
Thank you so much for the lovely tulips that were delivered to us on Easter. They are a beautiful reminder of the love and care that is so much a part of First Church.
With love and appreciation,
Ginny and Dave Drapeau

Dear Friends,
Many thanks for your kindness in bringing Sunday's beautiful yellow tulips over here for David to enjoy. Your thoughtfulness is a touching reminder to me of your caring ministry.
Fondly, Joan Young

On behalf of my family, I'd like to personally thank everyone that expressed their sympathy and concerns over the recent loss of my mother. My mother, Frances Pennington, lived a very full and rewarding life and I'm proud to have called her, "Mom."
-Larry Pennington

We've Moved!

Isa Loundon has moved to 152 Columbus Ave. Apt. C in New York, New York 10023-5947
Rex Ritchie has moved to 40 Broad St., Apt 102, Middletown, CT 06457.
Larry and Andrea Pennington have moved to 6 Settlement Hill, Windsor.

Baptism

Max Ethan Futterleib, son of Mandy and David Futterleib was baptized on May 15.

WANTED! Director of Auction Activities

Do you enjoy the following?

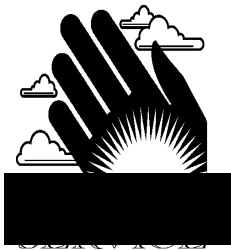
- Spending time with your fellow congregants?
- Working and spreading goodwill within your community?
- Organizing and coordinating a fun time for all?

We offer:

- A great working environment
- Highly competitive thanks and praise
- A very supportive congregation
- A talented workforce

If you think you have what it takes, we are interested in you! We are planning our next silent auction for **March 2012** and we need to fill this position soon to meet that goal. We know our community contains many talented people who are well qualified for this position. If you, or you and a friend, would like to apply, please contact Noel Osowiecki at 860-688-6779 or nosowiecki@gmail.com. You can also contact the church office or Char and Rick.

Parish Caring Ministries



Over the last year, a number of new members have joined First Church. Parish Caring Ministries (PCM) would like to make certain that all these new members know how this ministry serves our church family. We invite you to let PCM know of anyone, including yourself, who might be interested in having a visitor, receiving a prayer shawl, needing a ride, receiving a meal, or wishing to request a prayer. You can do that by contacting the appropriate person listed below.

- 1. Visiting Ministry** - For people who are living alone and don't get out much or perhaps not at all, and would welcome some companionship. Contact Heidi Kelsey @ 860-688-1190 or Dorothy Merz @860-627-0272.
- 2. Knitting Ministry** - More than 125 volunteers knit warm and colorful prayer shawls for individuals who are experiencing a crisis or sickness or any kind of a situation that a prayer shawl might comfort. Contact Beth Horlitz @860-688- 8284 or Susan Huleatt @860-683-1089.
- 3. Meals & Transportation** - For people returning home from the hospital or nursing home or who might need some extra help with meals getting through a difficult situation. Transportation is provided to and from church and sometimes for other appointments. Call Linda Carillo @860-683-2335.
- 4. Prayer Ministry** -For anyone who would like a prayer offered on their own or someone else's behalf. These prayers are offered by the prayer team in the privacy of their own homes. Contact Kathy (Pierson) Hardman @860-688-7705.
- 5. Flower Ministry** - If you would like to give flowers on the altar in memory of a loved one, contact Dottie McAllister at 860-688-5555.

And finally if you know of someone from our congregation who is in the hospital, please notify the church office. Because of the HIPAA laws this is often the only way we will know about the situation.

Thanks to June/July PCM Volunteers

Care Notes - Jay Davenport in June;
Betsy Stisser in July

Fellowship Pad - Lauren Relyea in
June; Ann Pickens in July

Flowers - Vanda Doyle in June;
Colleen Olson in July

Meals & Transportation - Ruth
Johnson in June; Joan Waterhouse in
July

Prayer Team - Kathy (Pierson)
Hardman in June and July

News from the Early Learning Center

We have begun registration for the school year 2011-2012. We are looking for three year old children to fill our MWF or TTH (9 a.m.-11:45 a.m.) classes. If you are interested in signing up your child or know of anyone with a young child please call the office at (860) 688-4597 to schedule a tour. Scholarship help is available.

We also offer a half day summer camp for threes, fours and fives from 9 a.m.to 12 p.m. Monday through Friday beginning the week of June 27 and ending August 19. The cost is \$80 a week. Children must have a current medical form and be toilet trained in order to participate.





Lofty Notes

Dear First Church Family,
The good news is that I've been approved for the kidney transplant waiting list; the bad news is that I need to lose ten pounds in order to be eligible for the surgery.

Piece of cake! Or not.

As we approach the summer season, I'd like to express my thanks to all those who share their time and talent in music ministry at our church. My time of absence has made me all the more grateful for this branch of my "chosen family". We have room for more singers and handbell ringers...so please think about it for this fall. There is literally never a dull moment in our music room!

Finally, I hope everyone will mark their calendars for Thursday, August 18th. First Church has been invited to participate in a Gospel concert on the Green (starting at 6 pm). We'll be rehearsing the three Thursdays preceding this date, so if you would enjoy a very lively, short-term singing experience, this is for you!

Peace, Mark

A Great Musical Night Out for the Whole Family



Who: **Strike.a.Chord** a cappella group

When: **June 11, 2011**

Where: **Nelson Hall, Parish House**

Time: **7:30 p.m.**

Best entertainment value for your money!

Tickets are \$5 per adult/\$4 for children

Family package of \$15

www.strikeacord.com

Bruce Wallace Productions

With open hands receive and share the gifts of God's creation

These words, taken from the first stanza of Hymn 563 in the New Century Hymnal, point to a core understanding of our faith: We are not alone. This was Char's recent message to children (and to the rest of us who couldn't help overhearing): "God is always with us. We can count on God's loving presence in what ever place we find ourselves".

The Stewardship Committee hopes that we will take these words with us in the coming summer months when we take time away from the so-called "real" world of our workaday lives. Let us pray that during these times away we can experience a little bit of wilderness in which life can more clearly be seen as an interlocking web of dependency. Each life form thrives on gifts received and shared with its neighbors. New life emerges from and is nurtured by the remains of last year's growth with the encouragement of a little sunshine mixed with water and stirred by a breeze. We ourselves are part of this wonderfully intricate and ever-flowing river of life.

**"We cannot own the sunlit sky, the moon,
the wild flowers growing,
For we are part of all that is within life's
river flowing.
With open hands receive and share the
gifts of God's creation,
That all may have abundant life in every
earthly nation."**

Words: Ruth Duck, © 1983, rev. 1992 by G.I.A. Publications; Music: Endless Song attrib. to Robert Lowry in Bright Jewels for the Sunday School, New York, 1869. Reprinted under OneLicense.net #E-802190.

Used Book Sale at First Church

While you are doing your spring cleaning, gather up your "already-read/no-longer-needed-at-our-house" books and set them aside for our **Used Book Sale fundraiser** to benefit our church. The Used Book Sale will take place on **Saturday, November 5, 2011**. Mark your calendar and recycle your books at the First Church Used Book Sale. Books can be stored any time—just contact the church office.

Back Bay Mission Trip February 5-February 11, 2011

...and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God? (Micah 6:8)

Several weeks ago, I was listening to an interview on my car radio. The woman being interviewed was from Biloxi, MI. She was explaining how at 78 years of age, she felt called to continue to provide childcare for children of lower income working parents. She had even expanded to 24 hour a day care to accommodate the many parents who now must work in casinos. Other forms of work were severely impacted by Katrina, and the casinos are what have been rebuilt. Others on the program talked about how hard it has been for the working people of that area to rebuild their lives and how dependent they have been on assistance from various nonprofit organizations to help with the basics like housing. Government at any level has not focused on them. With the Mississippi River floods and the widespread tornadoes this year, attention will once again be diverted from this area still reeling from the direct hit from Katrina and the BP oil spill which devastated the shrimpers who had just managed to buy boats after their loss during Katrina.

The Back Bay Mission is one way we can help this hard hit area. The mission trip next February will give you a chance to experience lending a hand to people who are often overlooked and who are forgotten as soon as the next crisis arises. There are many ways to serve from building to cleaning, from serving in a soup kitchen to sorting clothes for those who need them. I heard there is even office work sometimes, but since that is definitely not one of my strengths, I didn't hear too much about it. The interesting thing about the experience is: no matter what job you take on, it will be satisfying to you in such deep and unexpected ways. It is a trip you will never forget. Spaces are going quickly, so if you are interested contact Kate McLean or Randy Clark for more information. Jan Stevens



Vacation Bible School New Week this Summer

Come to Vacation Bible School 2011 where we'll learn that God's love and grace for all creation is the most sustainable and recyclable love there is.

RECYCLE, REUSE...REJOICE!

**Monday, July 11 - Friday, July 15
9 a.m. - 12 noon**

**Youth & Children Celebration Sunday
July 24**

**Family VBS Potluck Picnic Wednesday, July 13 at
5 p.m. at Northwest Park**

Children entering kindergarten through fifth grade are invited to be part of this week of learning about God and our call to care for creation in creative and joyful ways!



Register online at fcwucc.org.
Cost is \$15/child - max \$35/family.



Youth going into 6th grade and older are invited to join us as helpers.

Adults - Join the Amazing Volunteer VBS Team and reveal your creative and renewing spirits, too! Call Helga Finlay to volunteer at 860-688-7229, ext 12.

» Rejoice! «

From our Church School Coordinator

With the summer season right around the corner, I began thinking about all of the fun times that I enjoyed with the children inside and outside the classroom over the past year. At the start of this past year, I set a goal for myself to try to introduce new and exciting activities for the children and families of First Church. During the year we tried several new things and perhaps we even started a few new traditions. We even found a way to take an old tradition and improve upon it.

Some of the more memorable events included our annual caroling to the elderly and those with special concerns. This year we went out in-style aboard a school bus and returned back to Nelson Hall with cold noses and toes ready to enjoy a bowl of hot soup and grilled cheese sandwiches. The fellowship we enjoyed after caroling made the evening all the more memorable for everyone.

During Advent, the children spent the season learning how Christmas is celebrated around world in places like Italy, Germany, Jamaica and Sweden, as shared by members of our own congregation. The children were introduced to various native holiday traditions, folk songs and customary holiday foods they eat.

When the season of Lent arrived, the children were visited by Rabbi Alan Lefkowitz of Congregation Beth Ahm. Rabbi Lefkowitz shared with the children the Jewish traditions of the Passover meal and entertained everyone with knowledge of pop culture, guitar playing and children's games.

Just when the cold weather was getting a little too much for everyone to handle, First Church families and friends came together in Nelson Hall for a night of pizza and games. On a different occasion we even tried our hand at a karaoke/dance night.

All right, before you start thinking that it's all fun and games with our Sunday school program, I must say that I am very proud of the hard work these children have put in over the year. They continue to be enthusiastic and willing to learn both inside and outside the classroom. We have a terrific group of kids here at First Church in Windsor and it has been an utter pleasure to look upon them and watch them grow in their faith. So what if we're having fun!

June 11 "Strike.a.Chord": Join us for a special musical evening from 7:30 p.m. in Nelson Hall to watch this group perform. This event is for all church members.

Christian Education (CE) Sunday is June 12. Please come to church casually dressed, for there will be a picnic following the 10 a.m. worship service. We will be serving hamburgers and hot dogs. If you're planning to attend, please bring the following side items: last names ending in **A-L** are requested to bring a pasta or salad or side dish. Those whose last name ends **M-Z** are asked to bring dessert (**NO NUTS PLEASE!**)

No Church School on June 12. The children will help in leading the worship service. Scholarship recognitions will be made to students, and all Church School teachers and assistants will be recognized on this day. The Parker room will be available for parents if the need arises.

Faith Quest June 19-July 24 is the name of our summer program. During the summer months, the children will take a break from their regular Church School classrooms and gather together as a multi-age group to explore our campus and share in a variety of different fun activities.

Adopt a Soldier. We will collect items throughout the summer months for our adopted soldier Zachary Ramos. The items that we are looking for are baby wipes, hard candy (**no chocolate please**), flavored water drinks pouches, sunscreen lotion and, of course, personal letters of gratitude and encouragement. May God bless all of our soldiers and their families as we continue to keep them in our prayers.

Vacation Bible School. We're looking for volunteers in the follow areas: games, snack, and bible stories. Also we are looking for high school students to serve as assistants, July 11-15.

I hope everyone has safe summer and I'm looking forward to seeing all of you again on Rally Sunday, September 11.

Peace,

Helga Finlay

Happy Summer Birthday

June: James Finlay, Jack Marcella, Rebecca Fraley Jack Marcella, Rebecca Fraley, Gavin Stone, Carys Stone, Sophie Marcella, Katie Corbett, Hailey Klase, Brighid Pierson, Jacob Mascola, Shantez Bailey, Arianne Johanson

July: Lauren Bernstein, Elizabeth Collins , Gillian Klase



Cluster 13/Youth Mission Trip Update

Nineteen youths and eight adults have completed their 10 hours of sensitivity and safety training for our upcoming youth mission trip to Camden, NY July 16 - 23. We are ready to go! Here are some interesting facts about the community that we will be serving (based on the 2000 census, courtesy of www.zipskinny.com):

<u>Town</u>	<u>Windsor</u>	<u>Camden</u>
Population	28,275	6,694
Housing Units	10,914	2,822
Square Miles	29.6	169.5
Only HS Education	29.7%	43.4%
Beyond HS Ed.	57.9%	37.2%
Living Below Poverty	3.7%	12.0%
Median Income (US: \$50,233)	\$64,049	\$37,989

Cluster 13 Final Pre-Trip Meeting Scheduled

Cluster 13 participants will meet on **Sunday, June 5 in Nelson Hall from 12-1:30 p.m.** for a final pre-trip meeting. Parents are encouraged to attend.

Cluster 13 Worship Opportunities – All are welcome

The countdown has begun and before we all know it, our four teams will be headed to Camden, NY to help Cluster 13 repair homes in their area. Join us for the following worship services or opportunities:

- **Sunday, July 10 at 9:30 a.m.** as we commission the volunteers.
- **Saturday, July 16 at 8:00 a.m.** in the Parish House parking lot (elevator entrance) for picture taking and a send off prayer.
- **Sunday, July 24 at 9:30 a.m. for Youth and Children Sunday** as the Cluster 13 youth mission group leads the congregation in worship and song and stories about all the amazing ways they have experienced God in their lives this summer.

Invest in Cluster 13 – Become a Stockholder

We are estimating that it will cost \$12,000 to send our four teams of 27 volunteers on the summer youth mission trip this year, which adds up to approximately \$450/per volunteer! These expenses cover registration, construction materials, housing, transportation, meals, group supplies, insurance, and special activity fees. Each youth contributes \$215 to participate, but the remaining cost and scholarships are fundraised throughout the year. You can be a direct supporter by purchasing ASP stock at \$5, \$10, \$20, \$25, \$50, \$100 increments. As you “take stock in our mission trip,” \$5 or greater gives holders not only the satisfaction of directly supporting this important ministry, but they will also receive a stock certificate, a handwritten postcard from Camden, NY and an invitation to a church appreciation dinner in the Fall when we tell you all about our story. Donations of \$25 or more will receive additional levels of “thank you” recognition. We have been eagerly recruiting, fundraising, training, building community, raising awareness and packing. Won’t you please see it in your heart to send us on our way? It’s Camden, NY or bust July 16 – 23. Stock will be on sale during fellowship hour throughout May and June. Until then – pray on it and speak to a YMT leader if you have any questions! Char Corbett

Meet the Confirmands

This year’s confirmation class has met nearly every Sunday since September, and together they have grown in faith and friendship. Confirmation Sunday was May 22. This year 11 youth were confirmed.

Coleen Belanger, daughter of Daniel and Denise Belanger, is a freshman at Windsor High School. She enjoys reading and writing and declares that “everything tastes better with bacon!” Her favorite subject in school is English. Coleen has an older brother, Conor and a dog named Capri. Coleen’s mentor is **Cheryl Blood**.

Stephen Blood, son of Steve and Cheryl Blood, is a freshman at Windsor High School. His goal is to become a pilot. His favorite classes are science and auto shop, which are supported by his interests in chemistry and cars. He enjoys many sports and has a great sense of humor. Stephen’s mentor is **Denise Belanger**.

Lauren Canoni: Lauren, daughter of Peter and Carrie Canoni, is an eighth grader at Sage Park Middle School. She enjoys soccer, drawing, playing the violin and listening to music. She has a dog named Cole and a cat named Tux. She also has a brother named Brian. Lauren’s mentor is **Fran Ward-Nelson**.

Megan Canoni: Megan, daughter of Peter and Carrie Canoni, is an eighth grader at Sage Park Middle School. She enjoys soccer and drawing. Megan has a dog and cat at home. Megan’s mentor is **Carol Hubert**.

Lauren Dube, daughter of Steven and Lisa Dube, is a freshman at Loomis Chaffee School. She enjoys playing the French horn and flute in the school band. Lauren’s goal is to become a Supreme Court justice, “the second from Windsor, CT.” She has many animals at home and a younger brother, Chris. Lauren’s mentor is **Edie O’Donnell**.

Valerie Diehl, daughter of church member Liz Dupont-Diehl, is a freshman at Windsor High School. Her favorite subjects are math and science, and she is very active with the swim team. Valerie has a three-legged dog, Doc, two cats and an older sister, Katie. Valerie's mentor is **Ericka Fanguillo**.

Marcus Hudson, son of Marc and Kathy Hudson, is a freshman at Windsor High School. He loves history, plays lacrosse and eats pizza every chance he gets. Marcus intends to join the Marines after high school, with a goal of becoming a police officer. He is the youngest of five children. Marcus' mentor is **Barbara Cervantes**.

Mary Rebecca Nelson, daughter of Fran Ward-Nelson and the late Greg Nelson, is a freshman at Windsor High School. She enjoys swimming, running, her geometry class and macaroni and cheese. Becca is a ferocious reader and her goal is to one day publish a book of her own. Becca has an older brother, Will. Becca's mentor is **Cindy Taplin**.

Benjamin Osowiecki, son of Noel and Jennifer Osowiecki, is an eighth grader at Sage Park Middle School. Ben is a master builder and computer wiz, and his goal is to become an engineer. Ben enjoys his science classes, his favorite color is orange and he has two younger sisters, Gabrielle and Isabelle. Ben's mentor is **Doug Kelly**.

Brett Robert Sherman, son of Edward and Janet Sherman, is a freshman at Windsor Locks High School. He is a very active soccer and baseball player and he's "really into sports and music." His favorite subject is history, and his primary food is pizza. Brett has two older brothers, Ryan and Zach. His mentor is **Ginny Lougee**.

Kelly Taplin, daughter of Ken and Cindy Taplin, is a freshman at Classical Magnet School in Hartford. She enjoys her art, literature and history classes as she likes to write and figure out the history of things. Kelly enjoys Irish step dancing, listening to music and hanging out with friends. She has an older brother, Aaron. Kelly's mentor is **Marva Copeland**.

Healthcare 4Every1



Church members Jean Kelly, Elaine Richards, Edie O'Donnell and Rick Huleatt attend the Sustinet Rally on April 27 at the State Capitol

Author Edie Clark Talk at Windsor Public Library

Edie Clark, writer and Yankee Magazine contributor, will be at the Windsor Public Library on **Thursday, June 2, at 7 p.m.** for an author talk and book signing. She is the author of *Mary's Farm*, a popular monthly essay for Yankee, as well as numerous feature stories and several books. She has established her reputation "as one who writes about ordinary lives changed by one extraordinary act or circumstance". Her most recent book is *States of Grace*. Space is limited. Please sign-up at the library or call 860-285-1918.

Green Corner

“Green Group” Comes to First Church

Under the leadership of Davida Foy Crabtree, a group of volunteers has been meeting over the last several months to discuss ways in which we can better answer our call to be God’s stewards of our natural resources. The church’s “Green Group” (a new name for the group will be coming shortly) has been focused on a variety of ways that the church and its members can have a positive impact on our use of energy and natural resources.

Much of the group’s focus will be on the greening of the church and its operations, from looking at operations of the church (such as electricity use from various office equipment and appliances) to programmatic steps the congregation can take to become more aware of our effects on God’s creation (such as inviting environmental speakers to a Second Hour). In addition, the Green Group will be coordinating our congregation’s efforts with those of our Conference to ensure our efforts will have a more significant impact.

The Green Group will also be providing members of the congregation with tips they can use to better their environment. These tips are just that – tips. No one is under any obligation to try these ideas, however, they might make your life a little better, and will definitely help the planet. For example, did you know that there is a website that will help you to limit the amount of junk mail and catalogs you receive? The site, www.catalogchoice.org, allows users to eliminate certain mailings from their mailbox, eliminating the need to recycle thousands of pounds of paper every year. A portion of the site is free to use, and a more robust version of the site requires a nominal fee. Either way, any reduction in unwanted paper benefits both the recipients of junk mail as well as the environment.

Finally, this initiative is only just beginning. Those who are interested in making a difference are more than welcome to join us at any time. If you’re interested in helping out, or want more information, please contact Davida directly at dfcdth@gmail.com or 860-644-1107.

Highlights from the 2011 Spring Meeting of the CT UCC

Four hundred delegates, ministers, and congregational leaders from across the state sang, prayed, embraced, learned, listened, and remixed in a day dedicated to the most basic of Christian activities: the praise of God in the gathered community. "Vibrant congregational worship depends, at least in part, on 're-inventing' Epiphany," said the Rev. Dr. J. Mary Luti, Visiting Professor of Worship and Preaching at Andover Newton Theological School, "on looking back in order to go forward." Attendees to the Connecticut Conference UCC's Spring Meeting on May 14 in Naugatuck thoroughly enjoyed her engaging, challenging, faith-rooted presentation and called for more.

The Connecticut Conference's Spring Meeting focuses more on inspiration and less on business; the majority of the day was given to presentations, worship, and workshops.

In the afternoon, the assembly installed new officers and Directors of the Connecticut Conference, and commissioned the Conference Minister Search Committee. Conference Moderator the Rev. Bridget Fidler passed her office to incoming Moderator Dr. John Ramos with grace and humor, investing him with the chain of office and some special "bling" given her by a youth and the youth minister of her church, First Church of Christ Congregational UCC in Suffield. She and outgoing Chair of the Board of Directors the Rev. Richard Koenig were warmly thanked for their service by Conference Minister the Rev. Charles L. Wildman.

For more detailed information about the Spring Meeting, go to www.ctconfucc.org

First Church Staff and Contact Information

Senior Pastor
REV. RICHARD HANNA HULEATT
Associate Pastor
REV. CHARLENE CORBETT
Pastor Emeritus
REV. F. VAN GORDER PARKER
Music Director/Organist
MARK D. WATKINS
Associate Music Director
VICTOR M. EVANS
Church Administrator
MARY PHELAN
Director, Early Learning Center
ELLEN MONCHUN



Church School Coordinator
HELGA FINLAY
Church School Assistant
GARY SAVA
Treasurer
AUBREY LOOMIS
Bookkeeper
JENNIFER BILODEAU
Sexton
MICHAEL HITE
Custodian
CHRIS LEVINE

Sunday Church Services
8 a.m.—Communion in the Round
10/9:30 a.m.—Service and Church School
Childcare Available

107 Palisado Ave., Windsor CT 06095
Office Hours: 8:30 –4:30 p.m. (M-F)
Summer: 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. (M-F)
Phone: (860) 688-7229
Fax: (860) 688-9408
Email: first.church.windsor@snet.net
Web: www.fcwucc.org

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