

FaithWorks

Volume 57 Issue 9

November 2017



A Great Night of Dinner and Music! Saturday, November 11, 2017

Chicken Pie Supper 5:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.

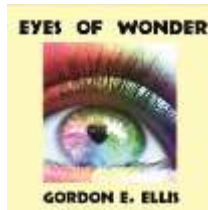


Tickets are available for both the 5pm and 7pm seatings (or get a meal to-go!) Tickets are available in the church office: Adults - \$11, children 12 and under - \$6. Proceeds go to our scholarship fund.



Many hands make light work, and it's a great way to get to know your church family! Would you like to help donate ingredients, prepare food or serve? Sign-up sheets are in Memorial Hall or Contact Linda Accuosti at 860-628-6958. We look forward to working with you!

Gordon E. Ellis at Peace Café! Saturday, November 11 8:00 p.m.



After the second seating of the Chicken Pie Supper, Gordon E. Ellis will be sharing some songs from his new CD, *Eyes of Wonder*, as well as some old favorites. Enjoy a warm evening of good music in Peace Café with your friends! A free-will offering will be gratefully accepted and refreshments will be available for purchase. Every penny donated will go to support the work of Fundación Sor Dominga Bocca, our mission partner in Guayaquil, Ecuador which provides much-needed services to girls who have been abused or neglected. Hope to see you there!

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FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

37 Main Street, Southington, CT 06489

860-628-6958/ Fax 860-621-0402

E-mail: office@fccsouthington.org

Website: FCCSouthington.org



OFFICE HOURS

Monday—Friday, 9am—1pm

SUNDAY SERVICES

8:00 a.m. Chapel Communion

9:30 a.m. Traditional Worship

11:15 a.m. Contemporary Worship

FOR PASTORAL EMERGENCIES

Call 860-628-6958 during office hours
or our Pastoral Emergency line: 860-385-4884

Pastor Ron rbrown@fccsouthington.org
Pastor Rachel rachel@fccsouthington.org

Ministers to the World:
The Whole Congregation

Senior Pastor	Rev. Dr. Ronald B. Brown
Associate Pastor	Rev. Rachel J. Bahr
Contemporary Music Coordinators	Steve Nyren Melissa Mirisola
Directors of Christian Education	Karlene Archambeault Carole Lantz
Director of Music Ministries	Louis S. Vollono, Jr.
Tech/Communications	Dawn Gambacini
Office Coordinator	Mira Morel
Custodian	Lynn Bushnell
Collector	Ray Dischiono
Bookkeeper	Allison LeBarron
Minister of Music Emeritus	John R. Parsons



We pray for

- Bill Lyon and family grieving the death of his wife, Maureen (10/4).
- Bill and Karen Andres and family grieving the death of his mother, Barbara (10/23).
- Lou and Cathy Bruno grieving the death of Lou's brother-in-law, Pete Hobbs.
- Greg Little and family grieving the death of his brother-in-law (Martin Bolton).
- Wendi Rocheleau and family grieving the death of her mother, Evelyn Innocent (9/26).
- Barbara Nati and family grieving the death of her uncle, Bob LaRiviere (10/17).
- Esther Rubin Corcoran, Dean Corcoran and family grieving the death of their husband/father, Mark (10/29).

Continued prayers for Jamie (Kathy Williams' brother), Embert Dwelley, Doris LaRese, Faith Sullivan, George Moore, John Noble, Christine Blakey (Donna Blakey's daughter-in-law), Joshua, Helen Deckert, Jerry Szylobryt (Sabina Vance's uncle), Ben (Morris Eisenberg's nephew), Reny (Irene) Janelle, Diane Cayer, Carolyn Mansolf, DJ Festa, Tracey Gabree, Bryan, Peggy Thibodeau, Todd Lawson, Fran Sperry, Mary Bugbee, Carolyn Beadle, Betsy Roberts, our Stephen Ministers and care-receivers, and the Caring Ministry team and friends.



Brayden Edward Hungerford

Son of Dan and Michele Hungerford

October 15, 2017



Thank You to...

- Steve Palmieri who is helping out in our church office while Mira is out on maternity leave.
- Linda Accuosti, Brian and Karen Bradshaw, Cynthia Enright, and all the volunteers from FCC and Gishrei Shalom Jewish Congregation who donated baskets, baked, pitched in peeling apples and worked during both weekends to make this a very successful Apple Harvest Festival! Thank you!
- Our October Bread for Life Volunteers: Shirley Campbell, Joan Cappannari, Mary Carter, Deb Hart, Michael and Linda Ericson, and Bev Ryan.

Happy Thanksgiving from Your Church Staff!

The Church Office will be CLOSED Thanksgiving Day, November 23 and Friday, November 24



Nora Sarno-Olmstead

Daughter of Amber Sarno and Mark Olmstead
October 19, 2017

Camryn Charlotte Bushnell

Daughter of Patrick and Carrie Bushnell
(Ralph and Lynn Bushnell, grandparents)
October 23, 2017



Recent Weddings

Valerie DePaolo and Michele Boisvert
October 6, 2017

Stephen Palmieri and Jessica Torres
October 20, 2017



Daylight Savings Time ends Sunday, November 5!

Turn your clocks back 1 hour before going to bed Saturday night.

Our Vibrant Church!

Keep up-to-date with news about FCC by subscribing to our e-newsletters. There are lots of options including weekly and monthly updates, church school, spiritual formation, youth news, Peace Café and many more. Visit eepurl.com/iz4HM and enter your email address (or send a note to the church office.) Then add happenings@fccsouthington.org to your email Contacts so that emails will come to your inbox (and not your spam folder.)

Share Your Ideas and Feedback!

We value your opinions and ideas about the ways we communicate! Please email your thoughts to happenings@fccsouthington.org, drop a note in the Technology folder outside the church office, or give Dawn a call at 860-628-6958.

Make a Joyful Noise unto the Lord

Roots (grades 2-8), Branches (grade 9+), and the Gallery Singers (grade 9+) are seeking your time and talent. There really is something for everyone in FCC's vibrant Music Ministry. Come and join us! Please contact Lou Vollono, Director of Music Ministries & Organist (lou@fccsouthington.org) for more information, or best yet, we'll see you at one of these rehearsals! Try it; you might like it!

Roots – Tuesdays from 6—7:00 p.m.

Gallery Singers – Thursdays at 7:45 p.m.

Branches - Tuesdays from 7 – 8:30 p.m.

Don't Sing? Ring!

The Celebration Ringers would love for you to join us! We are an easy-going group who enjoys making music together. We practice **Mondays at 7:00 p.m.** Adults and youth in grade 8+, with or without musical experience, are welcome. Please [contact Patty Nichols](#) for details.

Only 5 More Days!

The Board of Deacons has developed an outline of our congregation's most important responsibilities and we'd like your feedback on how our congregation is doing. Response sheets are available on the credenza outside the church office and online at FCCSouthington.org/who-we-are. The last day to **respond is THIS SUNDAY, November 5**. Thank you!

Attention Young Adults

20- and 30-Somethings are invited to meet us at Pastor Rachel's house, 166 Berlin Street, Southington on **Tuesdays at 6:00 p.m.** for friends, fun, faith and food! We use an online curriculum called "Wired Word". Questions? See Pastor Rachel or email her at Rachel@fccsouthington.org.

Hospitality Night

White Christmas In the Community and the Southington Downtown Merchant Association's annual holiday event will be **Friday, December 1 from 5:30—9 p.m.** FCC will be holding a hospitality night with a bake sale, music, a Christmas tag sale, refreshments, tables for our church's missions and activities, and generally lots of holiday spirit! Mark your calendar and be sure to join in the fun or help represent us in our radical hospitality toward our neighbors.

A Weekend by the Sea - A Weekend to Change Your Life

FCC Women's Retreat at Mercy by the Sea in Madison, CT

March 9-11, 2018

In our busy and harried world, it is often difficult to find a peaceful moment or setting whereby a woman can evaluate who she has been and who she can become. By taking herself away for a day, a weekend or a week a woman can "find her essence and begin to welcome the person she left behind while meeting the needs of the others." Sign-up on the sheet outside Pastor Ron's Office! Cost for the retreat is \$250—covers meals, lodging and retreat materials. **Deadline for sign-up is February 4.**

“Where Do I Get Information about FCC?”

News and Upcoming Events—Bulletin boards are located next to the elevator (ground floor), all around the walls of Memorial Hall, and just inside the main doors (between the chapel and meetinghouse). Also, you can visit our Happenings page at FCCSouthington.org/happenings or our online events calendar at FCCSouthington.org/events.

Sign-ups—These are most often located on the wall outside Pastor Ron’s office and sometimes in Memorial Hall. You can also call the church office at 860-628-6958 or email office@fccsouthington.org to sign up. Our office hours are Monday—Friday, 9:00 a.m.—1:00 p.m.

Pick up a printed copy—Forms, newsletters, surveys, vouchers, etc. are placed on the credenza (long cabinet) outside the church office and on the table in the narthex (just inside the meetinghouse doors). These are also usually online at FCCSouthington.org/forms. Newsletters can be read online at FCCSouthington.org/newsletter.

Missions and Ministries—Read more about these on our website at FCCSouthington.org/share and watch for a brochure coming soon.

Coping with life challenges—there are Christian care booklets located on the walls outside the church office and in the narthex (just inside the meetinghouse doors).



Join the Conversation! [Like us on Facebook](#) and get updates in your newsfeed.

Family Promise: You Can Make a Difference!

Thank you to all the Family Promise volunteers who shared their time with our three guest families in September! They had a great experience thanks to your good care and kindness.

We need more than 60 volunteers for each host week and ask for YOUR help!

1. Volunteering is **simple and very rewarding** and is a great family activity! It requires you to only smile, listen if needed, and enjoy their company as if they were visiting your home.
2. Our next host week is **December 3 - 10!** Please mark your calendar now to lend a hand that week. Sign-ups will be available soon on our website at FCCSouthington.org/share or by calling the church office at 860-628-6958.
3. Remember, you do not need to be trained in order to cook a meal or to help with set-up and clean-up.

Thank you for helping these families who are in great need!



FAITH FORMATION

Bagels and Bible Study

Everyone is invited to join Pastor Ron before work for tasty bagels, brief Bible study and stimulating conversation. We are currently studying the Gospel of John. Brief readings to prepare for the Bible study will be emailed to participants before each meeting. We will meet **every other Thursday from 7:00-7:45 a.m.** in Memorial Hall—this month on **November 2 and 16**. We can't promise any answers, but we have a great time and learn a lot from exploring the questions. No previous Bible study experience is necessary and new folks are always welcome. Each session stands alone, so come when you can.

Bible Study at The Orchards

This weekly Bible study meets in the Small Dining Room of The Orchards located at 34 Hobart Street in Southington. Several residents of The Orchards attend this Bible study, but it is open to everyone. We meet **every Wednesday from 10:00-10:30 a.m.** to study the scripture passages that will be read at the First Congregational Church worship services the following Sunday. **All are welcome!**

Mark Your Calendar!

Retreat provides an opportunity to make space for God. How might your life be transformed?

Men's Retreat: January 27—28, 2018 at Silver Lake Conference Center in Sharon, CT

Women's Retreat: March 9—11, 2018 at Mercy by the Sea, Madison, CT

November Worship at FCC

**Worship at 8:00, 9:30 and 11:15 a.m.
(except as noted below)**

Nov 5: 21st Sunday after Pentecost

The Rev. Dr. Ronald B. Brown, preaching

Nov 12: 22nd Sunday after Pentecost

The Rev. Dr. Ronald B. Brown, preaching

Nov 19: Thanksgiving Sunday

8:00 a.m. Chapel Communion

10:00 a.m. Combined Worship followed by All-Church Birthday Party in Memorial Hall

The Rev. Dr. Ronald B. Brown, preaching

Nov 26: 24th Sunday after Pentecost

Ecuador Foundation Fund Sunday

Visit FCCSouthington.org/worship-this-week for the most up-to-date info about worship services.

Wednesday Evening Bible Study

On **November 1**, Pastor Ron will begin a new Bible study group which will meet **every other Wednesday from 6:30-8:00 p.m.** in Room 206. Join Pastor Ron



for a Bible study on the New Testament book, Paul's letter to the Romans. In this study, we open the door into one of the most important letters ever written. A *real* letter written to *real* people in a *real* situation, it continues to transform lives today. The Bible study begins on **Wednesday, November 1** and will meet every other Wednesday for 15 sessions. Part of the Kerygma Program, the Bible study includes a resource book for each participant which costs \$25. Please contact Pastor Ron to sign up and order your book.

BULLETIN BOARD

Southington Historic Ornament

The Southington Historical Society has Christmas ornaments available for purchase which feature our beloved church. Cost is \$15 each. Stop by outside Pastor Ron's office to see the ornament and sign up to get yours.

Game Night for Adults

Friday, November 17
7:00 p.m.

Held on the third Friday of each month. Beverages are provided. Please bring a small snack to share. Come solo or bring a friend. New games are always welcome! Questions: See Meredith Mann or Carolyn Mansolf.



Chair Yoga!

Mondays at 10am in our Choir Room

This is a gentle yoga class.

All donations (\$5 suggested) to benefit the girls of Fundación Sor Dominga Bocca in Ecuador.



Fire Safety Update

Fire Safety Fire Prevention Week was established to commemorate the Great Chicago Fire and this year it's observed from October 8 – 14.

Thank you to all who participated in our October 15th Fire Drill. We were able to evacuate the church in 4 minutes 5 seconds at the 9:30 service and 3 minutes 17 seconds at the 11:15 service. If you have any comments or suggestions, please [contact Carole](#).

Morning Women's Group

All women are invited to join us in Memorial Hall on **Tuesday, November 14 at 9:30 a.m.** for a meeting and then a fun adult coloring activity. Call Bev at 860-666-8874 with questions.

Church Council Meeting

All are invited to our next meeting: **Monday, November 20 at 7:00 p.m.** in room 201/202.

All-Church Birthday Party

Join us in Memorial Hall after the **10:00 a.m. worship on November 19** as the Board of Christian Education treats you to an All-Church Birthday Party. We will have cakes representing each of the 12 months, and you can sit with others in our church family who were born in the same month as you were. If you're really hungry, you can visit the other tables and sample their delicious cakes too!

Interfaith Thanksgiving

Join us **Tuesday, November 21, 2017 at 7:00 p.m.** at the First Lutheran Church, 232 Bristol Street, Southington. You are invited to bring a dessert to share at the community reception following the service. We hope you will join all our Southington neighbors for this special time of giving thanks.

Shopping at Patrick Baker & Sons?

Mention our church's name at the register (or if you are buying on the web, enter **22610** in the Church Code box on the checkout page) and they will credit our account with 10% of the purchase amount. Thank you for remembering FCC!

The Church Through the Ages

How has being part of FCC changed your life?

I cannot imagine what my life would be like without the gift of this church and so many other churches that have blessed me on my life's journey. I have been thinking about the blessing of our church, especially as we prepare for our annual *Season of Generosity, the season when we celebrate the time, talents, and treasures that we share with the world through our community of faith. Our theme this year is, "the church through the ages."*

To help us celebrate the gifts our generosity has created in the past, and dream about how our generosity will change the world in the future, we have created a church timeline in Memorial Hall. There is a sheet of newsprint for each decade beginning with the 1940s, and two sheets of newsprint to hold our dreams for the future—we will add more if those fill up. You are invited to add to the timeline significant things that you recall in past decades, and to share your dreams for the future of our church.

At our worship celebration on Thanksgiving Sunday (November 19) at 10:00 a.m. in the meeting-house, we will celebrate the gifts of our past, and gather our financial pledges for the coming year that will help us fulfill God's dreams for us in the future. Our generosity enables God to do so many wonderful things in our church community, and we look forward to celebrating them all.

Blessings,

Pastor Ron



Mark your calendar NOW for Hospitality Night at FCC!

Friday, December 1 from 5:30—9:00 p.m. Food, Fun, Friends and Festivities for All! A great way to share the Christmas Spirit. Watch for details coming soon!

Save These Dates:

- Oct 30—Nov 3 [Bread for Life](#) Volunteer Week
- Nov 11 [Chicken Pie Supper](#) and Benefit Concert in [Peace Café](#) (Gordon Ellis)
- Nov 17 [Game Night](#) for Adults
- Nov 17-19 [Steeple Players](#) present: *And Then They Came for Me*
- Nov 19 [Thanksgiving Worship](#)/Pledge Sunday/All-Church Birthday Party
- Nov 21 [Interfaith Service of Thanksgiving](#) (at First Lutheran Church)
- Dec 1 [Hospitality Night](#)
- Dec 3 [First Sunday of Advent](#)
- Dec 4 [Service of Healing and Remembrance](#)
- Dec 3 – 10 [Family Promise](#) Host Week

Check our online calendar any time at [**FCCSouthington.org/events**](https://FCCSouthington.org/events).

Missions



Quilt Group

We meet every other Wednesday from 10am–noon in room 201/2 to quilt and enjoy fellowship. Not a quilter? Join us and we'll give you an easy job to do or come for the fellowship. Last month we donated quilts to be raffled off to benefit Fundación Sor Dominga Bocca in Ecuador and Manes to Motion. Questions? [Email Carole Lantz](mailto:Carole.Lantz@church.org) or call 860-628-6958.

Meeting dates: November 8 and 22

Showing God's Love

When a person is hurting, they can feel very alone. Events such as chronic or terminal illness, divorce, death of a loved one, job loss, even birth of a child can all be life-stressors. Stephen Ministers are trained to provide confidential, one-on-one Christian care to a person who is struggling. If you or someone you know is experiencing such a struggle, the care of a Stephen Minister can be a great relief! Please contact Irene (860-621-5292) or Pastor Ron (860-628-6958) if you would like more information on this important ministry.



Prayer Circle

Tuesday afternoons at 4:00 p.m. in the Parlor

All are invited to join us as we lift our joys and concerns to the Lord. Put your prayer request in the collection basket or the folder outside the church office.



Food Pantry Donations

The food pantry at Southington Community Services is always in need of donations. Please leave non-perishable items in the Hope chest located in the Narthex at the front of the church. Last month we delivered about \$55 worth of food. Thank you for helping those in need!

Make a Family's Thanksgiving

Thanksgiving food for Southington Community Services will be **collected in Memorial Hall from November 5—19** for Southington families in need of help this holiday season. Items needed: boxed or bag stuffing, canned or jarred gravy, instant mashed potatoes, canned vegetables, cranberry sauce, corn muffin mix, creamed style corn, canned fruit, packaged cookies or desserts.



Caring Ministry

Our next Caring Ministry meeting will be **Monday, November 13 at 10:00 a.m.** Anyone interested in bringing a little of our church to folks who can't come to us is welcome to attend! Please call Carolyn with questions, **860-621-5082.**

Meal Ministry for you or a church member who is going through a difficult time, surgery, etc. Please call Polly, 860-628-0607.

Transportation Ministry If you are in need of a ride to church or a doctor's appointment, or if you are able to provide rides occasionally to church and/or doctor's appointments. Please call Diana, 860-793-2765.

Getting to Know Our 9:30 a.m. Nursery Workers...

These Nursery Workers care for the youngest members of our church family. Our little ones are so blessed to see God in the faces of these loving caregivers. Visit our Nursery sometime and meet some of our 9:30 a.m. volunteers. Next month we'll learn about the 11:15 Nursery Workers.

Tina Jenkins grew up here at FCC, graduated from SHC, worked with our youth group and shows God's love to the little ones in our nursery. She is married to Todd, loves to read, bowl and play golf and works at the Hartford as a Budget Manager. Her quiet loving personality calms, dries tears and creates smiles.

Ray Dischino grew up Methodist in Stamford, but as an adult helped as teacher, nursery coordinator and church school coordinator at the Presbyterian church. Here at FCC, he's our Collector and a regular in the nursery. Ray earned his BA from Colgate, his Master's from Columbia Teachers' College, taught at Southington HS and is an adjunct professor at CCSU. He has 4 children ranging in age from 5 to 35, has taught middle and high school and has written and edited technical manuals for high-tech companies. Whenever we need a volunteer, Ray is there, portraying an angel or a pig!

Anne Sharnick previously attended Berlin Congregational Church where she worked in the nursery before coming to FCC. She also was involved in the middle school youth musicals at Bethany Covenant church's summer productions. In addition to working in and coordinating volunteers for our Nursery, Anne is a teacher in Meriden, loves singing, acting and ballroom dance and is very involved in PTO, Girl Scouts and scholarship-based teacher groups. She and her husband Stephen have 2 daughters.

Kristine Cassan comes to us from North Branford, via Pennsylvania. She has a Master's in early childhood education and she and husband, Jon are raising 4 children (3 whom are triplets!). When she isn't working on the CE Board, coordinating communications for the Girl Scouts or working in our Nursery, Kristine is also a Teacher's Aide at the YMCA and a Special Needs Para-professional at Hatton School.

Karen Bradshaw came to us from Mill Plain UCC in Waterbury. She has worked in Children's Ministry and Coordinates our Nursery. Karen has a BS in Computer Science and business management and works at NBC in Computer Security. She and husband, Brian are raising 2 daughters. Karen has been involved in Girls Scouts for 5 years and loves reading, drama, music and technology.

Sydney Bradshaw has helped in Children's Ministry since her Confirmation year in the Nursery and in classes. She is CPR and babysitter trained and works for Touchstone, selling jewelry. Sydney loves drama, technology and music and is interested in engineering.

Bev Ryan has always been a Congregationalist in Massachusetts, Hartford, Newington and here for the last 22 years. She and Peter have 2 grown daughters, loves traveling, gardening and church activities. Before retiring, Bev worked for the Wethersfield Board of Education in the high school special needs program. She was named Woman of the Year for Church Woman United, is a member of our church women's group and her smiling face can be found in our Narthex as a greeter.

Faith Sullivan attended St. Mary's in Newington but has lived in Illinois, New Mexico and Germany as the Air Force Military job moved her husband. She had the opportunity to work in a Doctor's office, at the PX and run a Day Care Center. Widowed now, she keeps busy with Stephen Ministry, the flower committee, a Communion Bread Baker and a free-spirited volunteer where ever we need her! Faith also enjoys bowling, painting, crocheting and ceramics.

Lizzy Cassan has been working in our nursery and loves to watch how the children learn, grow and interact with others. She is CPR, First Aid and Babysitter trained and also works at the YMCA Learning Center Day care School. Lizzy plays the clarinet in the SHS Marching Band and plays Lacrosse. In her spare time as a high school senior, she relaxes with a coloring book and her cat, Whisper.

Rosie Dunlap has been with us for over 40 years, serving as President of the Women's Association, helping with children's chapel services, serving on Church Women United and on the Missions Board when we created the Bread For Life program. She has 2 grown children and was an inspector at Lori Lock in Southington before retiring. Besides volunteering in our Nursery, she works at coffee hour, gives people rides to appointments when needed and is a member of the American Legion.

Ruth Coleman has been a member of FCC for as long as she can remember and has helped out everywhere! One of her main focuses now is the Chicken Pie Supper to help raise money for a scholarship awarded annually to a graduating senior. Ruth has three daughters - two of whom were the nursery coordinators for several years. She enjoys watching her grandchildren's many sports and activities, entertaining family, spending time in the pool or playing board games or cards. In her spare time, Ruth travels with family and enjoys gardening and reading.

Arianna Perkins joined us 5 years ago after growing up in the Congregational Church of Burlington, CT. She attends SHS and Greater Hartford Academy of the Art for Dance. She loves dance and has danced since she was 7. This summer she took a babysitting class in town and enjoyed it and would love to babysit more. She loves animals and pet-sitting and enjoys volunteering in charity work with her mom. She has 2 brothers which she likes to call "bothers"!

Jaden Cayer previously attended St. Dominic's Catholic Church before joining FCC. He began helping in our Nursery during his Confirmation year. He loves video games and music.

Carissa Cayer has continued here faith journey here at FCC and has helped in our Nursery since her Confirmation year. She loves animals, filming and photography.



If you'd like to explore volunteering in our Nursery, please contact Karen Bradshaw, Carole or Karlene. Let God's light shine through you to our little angels!

Church School News

Church School Schedule

November 5: Chapel Sunday (see * below)

November 19, 10:00 a.m.: Thanksgiving Inter-generational worship; no church school, nursery care available as usual. After worship, the CE Board is hosting the All-Church Birthday Party in Memorial Hall. Join others who share your month of birth for a slice of delicious cake!

November 26, 12:30 – 1:30 p.m.: Christmas Pageant rehearsal (see ** below)

*All-Saints' Day Chapel Service

In celebration of All Saints' Day, the Children's Chapel will highlight people of the Bible and will end in a parade of saints to the preschool room and on to their classrooms. With Halloween and All Saint's Day just one day apart, we'd like the children to pick a Bible person and either dress in costume or bring something to symbolize who they are. It's an opportunity for church life to spill over into family life and perhaps, the excitement of Halloween can carry into a church school learning experience as they all come in costume. Costumes can range from the elaborate dress of Queen Esther or a simple backpack for Abraham or Sarah. Noah could bring some stuffed animals, Daniel could bring a stuffed lion or Jonah could wear flippers. We have basic costumes you could borrow. If you need help, let us know. I will interview any of the characters that want to speak as part of the Chapel service. So, please help your child pick a person, learn the story and have some fun!

**Christmas Pageant

Mark your calendars. This year our **10:00 am Christmas Eve** service will be a Christmas Pageant presented by the youth of our church (preschool – 8th grade.) Please keep the following dates free for rehearsals 12:30 – 1:30: November 26, December 3, December 10, December 17 (costume fitting – **must attend**.) To sign up or if you have any questions, please contact Pastor Rachel at Rachel@fccsouthington.org.

Attention Parents of 3- and 4-Year-Olds

Village Green Nursery School is currently accepting applications for the upcoming school year. We offer a 3 year-old program on Tuesdays and Thursdays, and a 4 year-old program on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays. Both programs run from 9-12 but the 4 year-olds are offered an Extended Day to focus on kindergarten readiness skills. Please check out our website, vgns.org or call Shannon Knudsen, Director, at (860)628-6958 or email at vgnsstaff@gmail.com.



Youth News

Confirmation Class

Nov 5, 4:00 p.m.: Confirmation Class—Meet and Greet with mentors

Nov 12, 4:00 p.m.: Confirmation Class

Nov 17-18: The Fast that Lasts/Lock-In

Visit FCCSouthington.org/confirmation for more info. Please contact Pastor Rachel with questions at Rachel@fccsouthington.org.



Our Whole Lives 2017-2018

Objectives:

- *Self-esteem
- *Acceptance
- *Inclusion
- *An ability to articulate and practice one's deepest values and be one's best self
- *A base of knowledge for informed personal decision-making

Age Group: 10th-12th Graders

Teachers: Pastor Rachel, Cynthia Enright, Ally Massi, John Zimmerman

OWL Retreat at Silver Lake Conference Center on February 2-4, 2018. Sign-up by **December 1, 2017** by emailing Pastor Rachel and turning in a check for \$150.

Middle School Youth Group

(grades 6—8)

Nov 12: 5:30 p.m. Snowman Pops/Gratitude Project. We're talking about Gratitude and learning about ways to nurture this in our daily lives!

No MSYG on November 26. Save the date of December 1 for a Hospitality Night project!

High School Youth Group

November 5: "Box of Tools" - Building Coping Skills. We will be joined by Jessica and Janaina from the YWCA in New Britain to talk about coping skills and the ways we can help ourselves when stress hits.

November 19: 2:00 p.m. attend *And Then They Came for Me*



Youth and Parent Council

We need your help! We are looking for youth and parents to participate in our youth ministry council! We will have our first meeting on **Sunday, November 12 from 3:00—4:00 p.m.** in Peace Café. Are you interested in helping with the direction of our youth ministry? Do you have gifts for programming, fundraising, visioning? We want your voice to be heard. Come on out for our first meeting of visioning together! Please RSVP to Pastor Rachel: Rachel@fccsouthington.org

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
37 Main Street
Southington, CT 06489

The Steeple Players present:

*And Then They Came for Me:
Remembering the World of Anne Frank*

Friday and Saturday, November 17 and 18 at 7:00 p.m.

Sunday, November 19 at 2:00 p.m.

This poignant, multimedia play by award-winning playwright, James Still, weaves videotaped interviews of two teen-age friends of Anne Frank – Holocaust survivors Eva Schloss and Ed Silverberg – with live actors recreating scenes from their lives during WWII. The message of *And Then They Came For Me: Remembering the World of Anne Frank* resonates beyond the 20th century genocide in Europe. As performed by a racially diverse cast, the play speaks to the senseless persecution of people worldwide based on nationality, religion, race, and gender.



Tickets are \$10 each and are available in the church office (Monday—Friday, 9am—1pm), online at FCCSouthington.org/place-order, or at the door. Doors open 30 minutes before show-time.