

FaithWorks

Volume 57 Issue 8

October 2017



Pastor's Corner

Some thoughts on marking time...

I have always been one who holds onto things that mark time. In a special box on my desk, you will find the ticket stubs from the first time I went to baseball games at Yankee Stadium, Fenway Park, and Wrigley Field. The worship folders from my ordination and my installation services are also in there. I still have a copy of my mother's obituary, and the order of worship for the wonderful day that Jane and I were married.

They sit there, in that box, marking time.

I remember when I first heard the term, marking time. I played trombone in the Watauga High School Pioneers marching band in Boone, North Carolina. Marking time meant marching in place. I thought that meant going nowhere. The band director, Mr. Wallace, overheard me say that one day, and quickly corrected me. Mr. Wallace yelled, as only he could yell at a freshman trombonist who had committed the cardinal sin of talking in the ranks, "Marking time is not about going nowhere, Mr. Brown! It's about getting ready to go somewhere!"

I am deeply grateful to you for the gift of marking time in a different way over the summer, the blessing of a sabbatical. I experienced my time away as a wonderful opportunity to get ready to go somewhere. I was able to rest and reflect, pray and plan, and feel ready and raring to go as we continue our ministry together here at FCC. I am more convinced than ever that God has great things in store for us as we mark time together, getting ready to follow God's call into the future.

I look forward to continuing the journey!

Blessings,
Pastor Ron

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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 Office Coordinator	Dawn Gambacini Mira Morel
Custodian	Lynn Bushnell
Collector	Ray Dischiono
Bookkeeper	Allison LeBarron
Minister of Music Emeritus	John R. Parsons



We pray for

- Pastor Rachel and family grieving the death of her grandmother, Lulu Jean Hacker Back (9/9).
- D-J Lavoie and family grieving the death of her very dear friend, Loreen Grimshaw (8/31).
- Steve and Beth Nyerick and family grieving the death of his mother, Lauren (8/14).
- Betsy Schroeder and family grieving the death of her father, Alan "Mick" McCain (8/22).
- Joan Salamon grieving the death of her daughter, Sheri (9/3).
- Lisa Eleck and family grieving the death of her father, Frank (9/11).
- Bea Brush and family grieving the death of her partner, Michele.

We pray for Maureen Lyon who was hospitalized (9/18), for Faith Sullivan who had back surgery (9/28.)

Continued prayers for George Moore, John Noble, Kelly Andrews, Christine Blakey (Donna Blakey's daughter-in-law), Bill Giuditla (Jan Calabro's friend), Destiny Cruz, Joshua, Helen Deckert, Jerry Szylobryt (Sabina Vance's uncle), Ben (Morris Eisenberg's nephew), Caleb Myers (Sabina Vance'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 Caring Ministry team and friends.





Thank You to...

- Our faithful newsletter and bulletin folders, without whom this newsletter would not be possible.
- Carole and Karlene who put together a fun and wonderful theme for the First Day of Church School and who lovingly lead our children all year through!
- All the volunteers from FCC, Gishrei Shalom, and Plantsville Congregational who pitched in and made this another successful Family Promise host week. Thank you!



Amelia Ferraro

Daughter of Bianca Moon and Michael Ferraro
September 17, 2017

Apple Harvest Worship Hours

Sunday, October 1 and 8
8:00 a.m. and 10:00 a.m.



From Pastor Rachel

Pastor Rachel and her family wish to thank the congregation for the prayers, cards and support over the past couple of weeks since her grandmother's passing.



World Communion Sunday, the first Sunday of October, has become a time when Christians in every culture break bread and pour the cup to remember and affirm Christ as the Head of the

Church. On that day, we remember that we are part of the whole body of believers. Whether shared in a grand cathedral, a mud hut, outside on a hilltop, in a meetinghouse, or in a storefront, Christians celebrate the communion liturgy in as many ways as there are congregations. World Communion Sunday can be both a profound worship experience and a time for learning more about our wider community of faith. This year, we will particularly recognize those churches recovering from natural disasters in Puerto Rico, the Caribbean, Florida, Texas and Mexico.

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.

Join the “Celebration”!

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 at 860-709-8676 or patty.a.nichols@gmail.com for details.

Ecuador Mission Trip Exploration

Have you thought about going on one of the mission trips to Guayaquil, Ecuador to visit the girls of Fundación Sor Dominga Bocca (our mission partner which provides services to abused and neglected girls)? Hear about the possibilities and share your thoughts at an exploratory meeting with Pastor Ron Brown and Clare Lindsey on **October 18 at 7:00 p.m.** in Memorial Hall. Come and share the excitement about 2018 and beyond!

Attention Young Adults

20- and 30-Somethings are invited to meet us at Noodles & Company, 832 Queen 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.

Message from the Board of Deacons

We have a wonderful Mission Statement at First Congregational Church of Southington, don't we? In case you haven't read it lately, it is as follows:

First Congregational Church of Southington Mission Statement

To love and worship God; extend God's radically-inclusive love to all people everywhere; make more and better disciples of Jesus Christ; and inspire people and society to become more and more just, loving, compassionate and Christ-like.

Have you ever wondered what this statement means to you, and all of us, as members of our wonderful church family? The Board of Deacons has. As a result of this pondering, we decided to specify some of the most important responsibilities of our church family based on the Mission Statement. Through much discussion, prayer, and discernment, the following outline was developed:

Responsibilities of the Congregation

The members of the First Congregational Church of Southington embrace the cost and joys associated with being disciples of Christ. In doing so, their responsibilities are as follows:

1. To love and worship God as evidenced by the following:
 - incorporating prayer and spiritual reading in their lives regularly;
 - participating in spiritual formation activities individually and/or in a group;
 - sharing their time, talent, and treasure with the church community.

2. To extend God's radically-inclusive love to all people everywhere as evidenced by the following:
 - creating and contributing to a community in which each person is treated with respect and value;
 - being open and welcoming to all people;
 - recognizing the uniqueness of each person without judgement and while maintaining relationship with each other;
 - working to remove barriers to inclusivity.

3. To make more and better disciples of Jesus Christ as evidenced by the following:
 - supporting FCC's children and youth programs and their participants;
 - encouraging local and global community involvement within our church, and our involvement in the local and global community;
 - working with and learning from other church communities both in and out of the UCC.

4. To inspire people and society to become more and more just, loving, compassionate, and Christ-like as evidenced by the following:
 - speaking out in the face of injustice;
 - supporting the mission projects of the church;
 - supporting the members of our church family in times of difficulty in meaningful and appropriate ways.

Now the questions becomes, "How are we doing? In what areas are we excelling, and in what areas do we need to focus our growth?" During the month of October (and possibly into November), the Board of Deacons will be asking each member of our church family to give feedback on these important questions. Please keep your eyes out for the opportunity to give us this important information. Once feedback is received, the Deacons will be compiling a report which will be shared with our church family.

Thank you in advance for sharing your perspectives with us. Any questions, please contact Clare Lindsey at MLCBL58@hotmail.com or 203-592-2918.



Bagels and Bible Study for Men

All men are 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 **October 5 and 19**. 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!**

New:

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. Pastor is still working on a topic and curriculum. Look for more information in the weekly announcements and in the November issue of FaithWorks.

September Worship at FCC

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

Oct 1: Apple Harvest Sunday

World Communion Sunday

8:00 a.m. Chapel Communion
10:00 a.m. Traditional Worship
The Rev. Dr. Ronald B. Brown, preaching

Oct 8: Apple Harvest Sunday

8:00 a.m. Chapel Communion
10:00 a.m. Contemporary Worship
The Rev. Rachel J. Bahr, preaching

Oct 15: Nineteenth Sunday After Pentecost

The Rev. Dr. Ronald B. Brown, preaching

Oct 22: Twentieth Sunday After Pentecost

The Rev. Dr. Ronald B. Brown, preaching

Oct 29: Twenty-First Sunday After Pentecost

The Rev. Rachel J. Bahr, preaching

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

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

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, October 20 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.



Basket Drawing at AHF

Make your own theme basket or donate items for our committee to prepare. Apple Harvest Festival Basket values are approximately \$25. We have baskets and shrink-wrap if you do not. Please drop off completed baskets or items (alcohol-free and clearly marked "Basket Drawing") to the church library or church office through **October 5**. Please email ccen-right@yahoo.com with questions. Thank you from your Basket Committee - Tracy & Alexa Chaltas, Betsy Casey, Dave Wendt and Cynthia Enright

Morning Women's Group

The group peeled apples for Apple Harvest on September 26, so our next meeting will be in November. Call Bev Ryan at 860-666-8874 with questions.

Church Council Meeting

All are invited to our next meeting: **Monday, October 16 at 7:00 p.m.** in room 201/202.

Safe Conduct Update—Fire Safety

Fire Safety Fire Prevention Week was established to commemorate the Great Chicago Fire and this year it's observed from October 8 – 14. We at FCC are also working on fire safety – one way is by holding our annual Fire Drill. Sometime between the start of the program year in September and the end of June there will be an all church Fire Drill. When the alarm goes off please follow the evacuation directions from the minister in the Meeting House and leave the building and go to the Parking Lot in an orderly manner; church school teachers and nursery workers will take care of the children. When you've left the building, please do not drive away until the drill is over. Our drills do not take more than 4 minutes and we need to keep the people leaving the church safe. Thank you!

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!

Work Boot Saturday—October 28, 2017

Find your coveralls and work gloves and mark your calendars for Work Boot Saturday, **October 28 from 9:00 a.m.—1:00 p.m.** This is another chance to offer your time and talents to FCC. There's something for everyone! Opportunities inside and outside the church. Details are: Pick a project. Sign up for 2 hour window. Make some memories. Have some laughs. Meet some new friends. Socialize with old friends. Watch FCC sparkle afterwards! Watch for sign up sheets in Memorial Hall.

Volunteers Needed for Apple Harvest Festival



As our church's biggest fundraiser, we need scores of volunteers to assist with advance preparation and to work during the festival itself. This year the festival is **Friday—Sunday, Sept 29—Oct 8**, and we need volunteers during all fair hours (bakers, cashiers, kitchen help, servers, vendor support, etc.) and the week prior (setting up and peeling apples.) Please pitch in a few hours of your time while getting to know some of the folks in our church family. Sign-up in Memorial Hall. We look forward to working with you!

Chicken Pie Supper

Saturday, November 11, 2017

Mark your calendar now! We will need volunteers to help peel the potatoes and squash and to make the cole slaw on the Wednesday and Friday before. Tickets coming soon. Stay tuned or visit our website FCCSouthington.org/happenings for details.

Save These Dates:

- Sep 29—Oct 1 [Apple Harvest Festival](#)
- Oct 2 [Family Promise](#) Training Session
- Oct 6—8 [Apple Harvest Festival](#)
- Oct 13 Ecuador Foundation Fund [Dinner-Dance](#) at Testa's
- Oct 20 [Game Night](#) for Adults
- Oct 22 [Bible Sunday](#) (2nd and 5th graders)
- Oct 22 ["Our Whole Lives"](#) Info Session
- Oct 23 Deadline for November Newsletter
- Oct 23 Safe Conduct Refresher Training
- Oct 28 Work Boot Saturday
- Oct 29 [CROP Walk](#)
- Oct 30—Nov 3 [Bread for Life](#) Volunteer Week
- Nov 11 Chicken Pie Supper and Benefit Concert in Peace Café (Gordon Ellis)

Check our online calendar any time at FCCSouthington.org/events.

Missions



Quilt Group

We meet every other **Wednesday** from **10:00 – noon** in **air-conditioned room 201/202** 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. This summer we donated 6 quilts to the girls of Fundacion Sor Dominga Bocca in Ecuador.

Questions? Contact Carole Lantz

Meeting dates: October 11 and 25

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 Hendrickson (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. This summer we delivered about \$75 worth of food. Thank you for helping those in need!

Bread for Life Volunteer Week

Our next Bread for Life Volunteer Week is **October 30—November 3, from 10:00 a.m.—12:30 p.m.** If you are 16 or older, please sign up outside Pastor Ron's office. The tasks for volunteers normally include setting tables, preparing bag lunches, serving the food, and some clean up. Easy to learn, and a great way to serve our community! We hope you'll give it a try!



Caring Ministry

Our next Caring Ministry meeting will be **Monday, October 16 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 Mansolf 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 Sauer, 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 Sheard, 860-793-2765.

Ecuador Foundation Fund

Fundación Sor Dominga Bocca Benefit Dinner –Dance

Friday, October 13, 2017 at 6:00 p.m.

Testa's Banquet Facility

26 South Center Street, Southington



Come join the fun at our 6th Annual Dinner to benefit our mission partner, Fundación Sor Dominga Bocca!! This miraculous foundation provides residential, educational, and medical services ...and love...to abused and neglected girls in Guayaquil, Ecuador.

The fan-favorite group **Small Town Gamblers** will provide music for listening and dancing during the evening. A buffet dinner will be served and a prize will be given for the best "Orange and Black" garb! Tickets are \$45 per person and are available after services or call the Church Office at 860-628-6958 or office@fccsouthington.org. Join us for this fun night of raising funds for a great cause!

Ecuador Foundation Fund is a mission of the First Congregational Church of Southington.

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. We encourage you to **bring a friend or family member** to the Family Promise Volunteer Training on **Monday, October 2 at 6:30 p.m.** at the Plantsville Congregational Church (109 Church Street, Plantsville)
2. 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.
3. Our next host week is **December 3 - 10!** Please mark your calendar now to lend a hand that week.
4. 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!

“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](https://fccsouthington.org/happenings) or our online events calendar at [FCCSouthington.org/events](https://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.

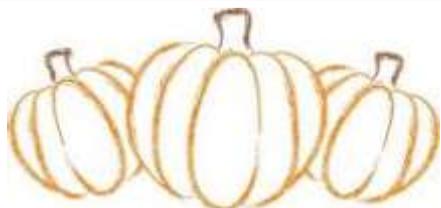
Pick up a printed copy—Forms, newsletters, surveys, vouchers, etc. are placed on the credenza (long cabinet) outside the church office and on the table in the narthex (just inside the meetinghouse doors). These are also usually online at [FCCSouthington.org/forms](https://fccsouthington.org/forms). Newsletters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

Missions and Ministries—Read more about these on our website at [FCCSouthington.org/share](https://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.



What is a Member-at-Large?

Your representative on the Church Council. Do you have praise, concerns, or ideas about the way First Congregational Church is run? Your feedback and ideas can be confidentially brought to the Council. Please email mal@fccsouthington.org or speak with one of the current members-at-large:

8:00 am Danielle and Bill Adams

9:30 am Meredith Mann

11:15 am Lynn Grenier

30 Years of Archiving!

An archivist assesses whether a piece of information is of value, uses patience and attention to detail to organize and document the information, and then stores it appropriately so that it will be accessible for decades to come. Over her 30 years of being an archivist for FCC, **Doris LaRese** has organized photos, letters, newspaper articles, and architectural drawings. She has also archived information on 26 ministers (including music, books, plays and poetry they wrote) and 16 years of photos of quilts created by the Grateful Threads Quilt Group, who made them and to whom they were given. As she steps down from this role, we thank Doris for her 30 years of helping to preserve our church’s history!

Church School News

Bible Sunday—A Gift to Our Children

The Bible tells an important story and we are inviting the children to take their place in that story. It is more than a bunch of unrelated stories waiting for us to connect a moral to them. The Bible's ultimate purpose is not for information but for transformation. At our teacher orientation this year, we presented a short presentation of the Old Testament, telling the whole story and connecting it to reveal how all the stories connect to the Author of Life. Understanding the Bible is a lifelong search, but at an early age, children acquire an attitude toward the Bible and we adults help develop a child's faith as they observe us and our lives rooted in this special book. The Bible has influenced the course of Western Civilization and its political development, great works of literature, art, music, ideas of truth, justice and purpose of living. Reading the Scriptures can be like a passive observer riding along, viewing the countryside, but when we step into the stories, connect them to life today, we don't just observe, we participate. On Sunday, October 22, we will be presenting our 5th graders with Study Bibles and our 2nd graders with Storybook Bibles as well as a workshop during class for the 5th graders and their parents. You can step into the story by purchasing a Bible for a child. Your name and special message in their new Bible will help connect our church family. For more information, see the display in Memorial Hall (by the CE Office across from room 204 during Apple Harvest) or contact Carole or Karlene.

~ Karlene and Carole

Church School Schedule

October 1: World Communion Sunday at 10:00 a.m.—Intergenerational service (no church school)

October 8: Apple Harvest Festival—Church school and nursery care at 10:00 a.m. only.

October 22: Bible Sunday—2nd graders will receive their Children's Bible in 365 Stories in their classroom. 5th graders will receive their NRSV Student Bibles in a special Bible workshop presented by Carole and Karlene in room 203. All 5th grade parents are invited to join their child for the workshop (Pastor Ron has given his blessing for you to leave the service.)

Help Develop a Child's Faith

All of our second and fifth graders will be receiving Bibles on **Sunday, October 22**. If you would like to donate a Bible (suggested donation is \$20.00) to one of our children, please sign up in Memorial Hall or contact Carole (carole@fccsouthington.org) or Karlene (karlene@fccsouthington.org).



Youth News

Confirmation Class

Oct 1: 3:30—5:00 p.m. Labyrinth Walk at Holy Family Retreat Center (Farmington).

Oct 15: 4:00 p.m. Safe Conduct Training for Youth and Mentors in Memorial Hall

Oct 22: Church Visit (approximately 9:00 a.m.—1:00 p.m. Details TBA)

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

CROP Walk Coming Soon

Southington's CROP Hunger Walk will be held on **Sunday, October 29** and our youth groups and confirmation classes will be participating. St. Thomas Church will be hosting this year. Registration will take place at Southington Catholic (133 Bristol Street, Southington) at 1:00 p.m. and the walk will begin at 1:30 p.m. More info and registration materials coming soon.



What is "Our Whole Lives?"

Would you like to be more prepared to guide conversations with your youth about reproductive health and values? The "Our Whole Lives" curriculum creates a partnership between the family and faith community to help parents fulfill their role as their children's primary educators. Join us **Sunday, October 22 at 12:30 p.m.** in the Parlor to learn more about this important ministry and to meet our leaders, Ally Massi, John Zimmerman, and Cynthia Enright. Questions? Contact Pastor Rachel at Rachel@fccsouthington.org.

Middle School Youth Group

(grades 6—8)

Sept 30: 2:00 p.m. Feed My Starving Children

Oct 22: 5:30 p.m. Pumpkin Carving

Nov 13: 5:30 p.m. Gratitude Project

High School Youth Group

October 1: Progressive Dinner We will gather at 5:00 p.m. at Pastor Rachel's, 166 Berlin Ave. Then we will move on to our entree houses and will end the night at a Dessert House.

October 15: YG—College Care Packages

October 27-28: Spirit One Conference

First Church of Christ, Farmington, has partnered with the Farmington Valley American Muslim Center on a new Farmington Valley Interfaith Initiative which will include individuals and houses of worship from a range of faith traditions. Internationally known speakers from both faiths will key-note the gathering, with workshops on specific topics providing opportunity for conversation and learning among Christians and Muslims.

Youth and Parent Council

Are you interested in helping with the direction of our youth ministry? Do you have gifts for programming, fundraising, or visioning? We are looking for youth and parents to participate in our youth ministry council! Our first meeting is **Sunday, October 8 from 4:00- 5:00 p.m. in Peace Café**. We want your voice to be heard! Come on out for our first meeting together. Please RSVP to Pastor Rachel.

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
37 Main Street
Southington, CT 06489

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Apple Harvest Festival Sept 29—Oct 1 and Oct 6—8

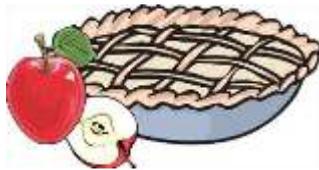


Play your part in our church's biggest fundraiser! Please volunteer a few hours of your time. There are all kinds of ways to contribute! Baking, apple peeling, selling our delicious apple crisp or tickets to our basket drawing. Sign up sheets are in Memorial Hall or call Linda at 203-592-8559.

Fun, Service, Fellowship and an FCC T-Shirt for Volunteers!

Would You Bake

a homemade baked food item (cake, cookies, cupcakes, breads, pie) for our AHF Bake Sale? Apple pies are our biggest request. Please wrap the item using 2 layers of clear plastic (not foil) so people can see the product, and label it with any allergens. Baked goods can be dropped off any time on the dates listed above. Questions, call the church office (860-628-6958).



Basket Drawing at AHF!

Make your own theme basket or donate items for our committee to prepare. Basket values are approx. \$25. We have baskets and shrink-wrap if you do not. Please drop off completed baskets or items (alcohol-free and clearly marked "Basket Drawing") to the church library or church office through **Sept 28 and Oct 5**.